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NELSON MANDELA



Former South African president and Nobel Peace Prize winner Nelson Mandela at the Mandela Foundation in Johannesburg in 2005. Mandela died Thursday at the age of 95. GETTY IMAGES

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88.5fm**When someone great is gone.**

Loss of South African leader felt worldwide; 'He no longer belongs to us, he belongs to the ages'

Nelson Mandela, who became one of the world's most beloved statesmen and a colossus of the 20th century when he emerged from 27 years in prison to negotiate an end to white minority rule in South Africa, has died. He was 95.

South African President Jacob Zuma made the announcement at a news conference late Thursday, saying "we've lost our greatest son."

His death closed the final chapter in South Africa's struggle to cast off apartheid, leaving the world with indelible memories of a man of astonishing grace and good humour.

In Canada Mandela is being remembered for his wisdom and devotion to fighting injustice.

"The world has lost one of its great moral leaders and statesmen," Prime Minister Stephen Harper said Thursday, describing the honorary Canadian citizen's forbearance as "legendary."

U.S. President Barack Obama made a sombre appearance at the White House Thursday to talk about the loss of Mandela, with whom he shares the distinction of being his nation's first black president.

In his speech, Obama said Mandela "achieved more than could be expected of any man."

"Today, he has gone home. And we have lost one of the most influential, courageous, and profoundly good human beings that any of us will share time with on this Earth. He no longer belongs to us — he belongs to the ages," Obama said. "We will not likely see the likes of Nelson Mandela again. So it falls to us as best we can to forward the example that he set: to make decisions guided not by hate but by love; to never discount the difference that one person can make; to strive for a future that is worthy of his sacrifice." *For more on the life and times of Mandela, see page 17. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, WITH FILES BY THE CANADIAN PRESS*

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Mother to face abduction charges: Cops

A mother who drove off with her son Wednesday after he arrived at an Ottawa elementary school will be charged with abduction and using a disguise, a police source told Metro Thursday.

The mom, who does not have custody of the child, is accused of picking him up in a car just after 8 a.m. in a driveway near the Terres-jeunes school, at 1303 Fellows Rd., in the city's

west end.

A man who was also in the car is expected to be charged with being an accessory, according to the source.

The Ontario Provincial Police arrested the man and woman in the car in the Cornwall area later that morning. OPP handed over the suspects to Ottawa police for questioning.

The boy's father, who does have custody, dropped

Spotted by OPP

"We appreciate the vigilance of the officers There's a safe child at home." OPS spokesperson Chuck Benoit

him off at the school before the incident. A teacher supervising the bus loading area, however, noticed the boy getting into a stranger's vehicle.

The teacher quickly alerted the vice-principal, who called police with a description of the vehicle and its license plate.

Police initiated the province's Red Leaf Alert system, which advises area police about possible abductions.

Police have arrested Maryline Courchesne, but have not said when she is scheduled to appear in court.

JOE LOFARO/METRO

Theft, break-and-enter

Police arrest man on 27 charges

An Ottawa man has been arrested on 27 charges relating to break-and-enter, theft and breaching court-imposed conditions, and more charges are on the way, police say.

Yvon Renaud, 36 is to appear in court Friday afternoon, police say. **METRO**

Higher learning

Cops to kids: Don't smoke weed, read

Police in Gatineau are sending a message to high-school students that "school hours are for studying, not for getting high" after police arrested 16 teens for smoking pot and hashish behind a corner store near Nicolas-Gatineau High School.

The teens were arrested Thursday after cops received several complaints from neighbours and school officials that the kids were continuously taking up at lunch hour.

Only three of the teens were charged with possession. **TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO**

13th annual event

Celebrate Xmas with the mayor

Mayor Jim Watson will host the Mayor's 13th Annual Christmas Celebration this Saturday in support of the Ottawa Food Bank.

Activities will be held inside city hall in Jean Pigott Place and Andrew S. Haydon Hall, along with more activities outdoors on Marion Dewar Plaza and the Rink of Dreams from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. **METRO**

Mining project to go ahead with or without PM: Wynne

Ring of Fire. Going alone on \$60-billion project will be costly, says premier



JOE LOFARO
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Ontario will go ahead and develop the Ring of Fire mining belt in northern Ontario with or without Prime Minister Stephen Harper's help, Premier Kathleen Wynne said Thursday during a press conference in Ottawa.

The two leaders met in the national capital for a behind-closed-doors meeting about how to get the massive \$60-billion development project back on track after U.S.-based mining giant Cliffs Natural Resources suspended operations. The project in a remote community about 500 kilometres north of Thunder Bay would have created an estimated 1,200 jobs.

"Make no mistake; we are going to work to develop the

Ring of Fire," said Wynne, following a tour of Carleton University's newly expanded MacOdrum library. "But it will be difficult if the federal government will not take part. It will not be impossible, but it will be very, very difficult."

It's a project of national interest and benefit, Wynne said. The Ring of Fire is believed to have one of the world's largest deposits of chromite, which is used to make stainless steel.

Cliffs pulled out for a multitude of reasons, including a lack of roads and other infrastructure to access the mine.

It is for that reason that Wynne is reaching out to Harper to see if he will help with the approximately \$2 billion needed to open the space to mining companies.

"I would be very surprised if the federal government would not be interested. I have heard ministers of the federal government talk about how important the Ring of Fire is to the north and ... Ontario," said Wynne.



Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne says development of the northern Ontario Ring of Fire mining operation will go ahead whether or not the federal government kicks in a much-needed \$2 billion to build the required preliminary infrastructure. **JOE LOFARO/METRO**

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Woman says she was evicted from shelter for asking questions

Not the first case.

She has come forward to push for appeal mechanism for shelter evictions, but expert cautions such a move could threaten emergency spaces



TREVOR GREENWAY
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Another woman has come forward claiming she was unjustly evicted from the YMCA and she worries there aren't enough rights for residents in transitional housing.

Deborah Bolton spent four months in the YMCA's TRY program — a supportive housing program for women — and says she was evicted in March because she “questioned their accountability.” An eviction notice was slipped under her door and she was given just 12 days to relocate, she says.

“I questioned their accountability — who funded them and what their deliverables were,” she told Metro Wednesday.

“At the end of the year, how were they going to show to their funders that this program was successful? They kept talking about it being a program and all I saw was there was a roof over my head and access to the gym and kitchen — which is great, don't get me wrong — but I was curious: Where's

the program? And I just got stonewalled.”

The former social worker, who suffers from fibromyalgia, is now living in a rooming house downtown with students and low-income families.

Because the YMCA's TRY program is considered transitional housing, the province's Residential Tenancies Act (RTA) does not apply to those who live there. It's concerning for women like Bolton.

“That means at the whim, who is ever on staff on that moment, you could be put out,” added Bolton. “There is no recourse for us and even if there was, our needs are immediate. It's not like we have the time to go to legal aid or find an advocate.”

Metro reported earlier this week that another woman was booted out of the program and only given seven days to leave the premises.

Staff at the YMCA told Metro earlier this week that kicking residents out of the program is used as a “last resort” and that residents are usually given a month's notice.

According to Allan Moscovitch, a professor at the School of Social Work at Carleton University, the province's RTA isn't designed for temporary housing and expanding it would actually be a detriment to those in immediate need of shelter.

“This is not a tenancy, it's a social service,” he said. “If you were to do that, what we might not have then is any very short term housing for people who are in need in



Ottawa resident Deborah Bolton says she was kicked out of the YMCA's TRY program for questioning the centre's accountability. TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO

the immediate, because the spaces would be taken up with people who are there on a semi-permanent basis.”

However, Moscovitch did agree that programs like the TRY program, where women sometimes stay for more than a year, should be protected.

He said the problem is finding the “fine line between what is a tenancy and what is a social service.”

Councillor's take

Protecting the residents

Coun. Mark Taylor, chair of Community and Protective Services, told Metro that although residents in programs like the TRY program don't have tenancy rights,

they are required to sign “occupancy agreements” that lay out expectations for both residents and landlords.

He said it's rare for city-funded housing programs to evict residents and added only after “some major, multiple infractions of the

rules” will they be asked to leave.

“We are as accommodating as we possibly can be, but at the same time, there are other people living there too,” said Taylor. “So we need to create a stable environment.”

TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO

Tackling the issue of women in shelters

NDP Ontario housing critic Cindy Forster said the problem confronting women in shelters stems from a lack of affordable housing — a problem she said is making more women and families homeless across the country.

She said 160,000 Canadian households are currently in need of affordable housing.

“Women wouldn't be in shelters if the federal and the provincial government

actually put in place some achievable targets and some money to actually building affordable housing,” she said.

She noted that her party has introduced private members' bills that would ease the crunch of social housing, most notably changing the law so rental units built after 1991 would no longer be exempt from annual rent controls.

“If landlords can increase

your rent to whatever they want, then more people end up homeless or couch surfing or in buildings or apartments that are in disrepair,” said Forster.

Forster said an NDP government would look into extending the Residential Tenancies Act to places like the YMCA's TRY Program and other transitional housing programs that give residents longer-term housing.

TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO

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Jonas & The Massive Attraction add pop to the blues-rock sound

Live Out Loud. Montreal-based duo bring more life experience, energy and a more dynamic sound to new album

DENIS ARMSTRONG
ottawa@metronews.ca

Jonas & The Massive Attraction is living a little louder after recording their new live album.

For close to a decade, the Montreal-based blues-rock pairing of singer Jonas Tomalty and guitarist Corey Diabo toured hard, opening for Lenny Kravitz, Van Halen, Deep Purple and The Cult and sweated superbly rocking live shows across Quebec and Europe to get to where they are, as a frontline brand band with their latest album, *Live Out Loud*.

Renowned American producer Marti Frederiksen wanted the recording to feel as exciting as the band's live shows. A veteran studio mastermind who produced Aerosmith and Pink, Frederiksen encouraged the band to embrace its blues-rock personality, but gave the music a jolt of pop electricity.

You can hear it in the live versions of their singles *Ultimate Low* and *Breathing*.

"We changed after working with him," said Diabo. "He has a low threshold for boring, every inch of song has to be dynamic."

Tomalty remembers one of Frederiksen's favourite maxims: "Don't bore us, get to the chorus," he says, laughing. "And that's our motto: Don't bore us, get to the chorus."

Tomalty, 34, the Juno Award-nominated singer and songwriter, was at his family cottage in Lac-Mégantic on

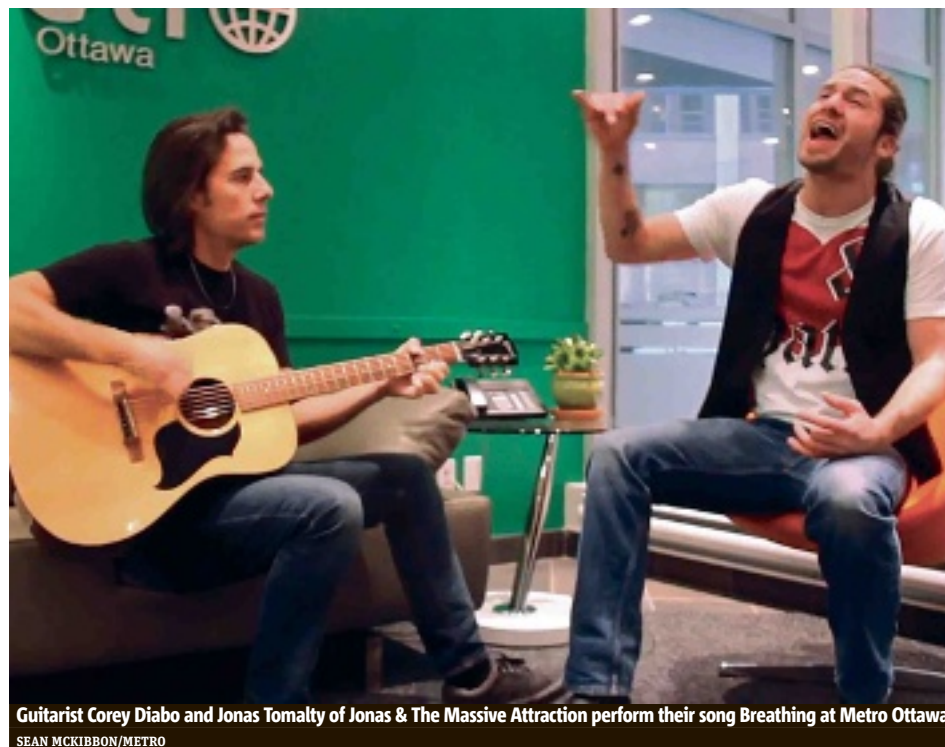
July 8, the night the trains ran off the rails and killed 47 people.

"My fiancée and I went into town the next morning and saw the devastation firsthand — a nightmare worse than anything you could imagine. It's heartbreaking to see something so beautiful destroyed, so many lives lost, and yet, to see the people there pull together is inspiring. I'm proud I come from there."

Diabo and Tomalty organized and played benefit concerts for Lac-Mégantic, including Montreal's Bell Centre in August that raised \$500,000.

Added Attraction

Jonas & The Massive Attraction play *Mavericks* on Dec. 14. You can also watch them play *Breathing* at Metro Ottawa's offices at metronews.ca.



Guitarist Corey Diabo and Jonas Tomalty of Jonas & The Massive Attraction perform their song *Breathing* at Metro Ottawa.
SEAN MCKIBBON/METRO

Dragons' Den star, self-made billionaire impart some life lessons to help raise funds for charity

Arlene Dickinson of Dragons' Den fame and Ottawa's own billionaire Sir Terry Matthews each gave their own rags-to-riches tales to a group of high school students and business leaders Thursday to help raise money for Big Brothers Big Sisters Ottawa (BBBSO).

The first iteration of the

Big Speakers fundraiser was held at the Ottawa Convention Centre with the goal of finding a new source of funding for the kids' charity.

Dickinson shared her story of coming to Canada at three years old from her native South Africa with her

family with only \$50 to their name.

"We couldn't afford Campbell's soup. We couldn't afford Wonder Bread," she told the crowd of about 800. "That lesson of having no money and coming from a very poor circumstance really did impact (me) and made me have

the values that I have today."

Now, she is CEO of Venture Communications, one of Canada's largest marketing firms, and has a net worth of about \$80 million.

She says her parents' divorce helped shape her into a successful businesswoman.

"My family was quite dys-

functional and I always feel like that has made me into a good marketer," she said to a few laughs.


Matthews' motivational speech to the crowd started with his precarious move to leave his job to start a company with a \$4,000 loan with Michael Cowpland in the

1970s.

"Even in 1973, it doesn't last long," he said. "It was probably the biggest risk I took."

Acknowledging the younger crowd, he told them to start their own companies instead of looking for a job.

JOE LOFARO/METRO




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Norman Reedus, left, and Sean Patrick Flanery, seen at The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day post-premiere party in 2009, will both be in attendance at the Ottawa Pop Expo. CHRIS PIZZELLO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sean Patrick Flanery kickin' it at Pop Expo

No one-trick pony. Boondock Saints actor says he has two passions in life: acting and martial arts

DENIS ARMSTRONG
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Sean Patrick Flanery says he wouldn't have an acting career in television and film were it not for his training in martial arts.

"It's affected every part of my life since I was nine," says Flanery from his L.A. home. "It elevates your self-confidence and teaches you self-control. You can't control the bully, but you can learn ways to deal with difficult situations."

Fighting skills helped to land Flanery, 48 his first big role as the swashbuckling Indiana Jones on The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles. That

series, which ran from 1992-1996, consolidated the start of a 25-year career that included roles in Dexter, The Young and the Restless, CSI and Stephen King's Dead Zone. But the character he's most often identified with is the Irish hooligan Connor MacManus in 1999's The Boondock Saints — a role that paired him with The Walking Dead star Norman Reedus. The two will be appearing at Pop Expo.

What was supposed to be a small action flick about Boston Irish Catholic toughies found a huge audience on the Internet and rental market.

"Those Boondock fans have been very good to us," he says. "They discovered and promoted the movie, not the studio. Word-of-mouth for that film was huge. The fans own it. It's the high mark of my career."

That film spawned a huge cult following and eventually led to a sequel, The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day, in

2009, with a third film currently in the works.

Flanery recently wrapped shooting on a new film called The Last Word, based on the true story of Johnny Frank Garrett, a Texan who was controversially convicted and executed for the rape and murder of a nun.

Flanery's appearances at Pop Expo are set for Dec. 7 and 8 at the Ernst & Young Centre. Tickets are available, starting at \$25, at ottawapopexpo.ca.

Fighting with Flanery

Flanery runs two Brazilian jiu-jitsu studios in Los Angeles, and will be appearing at Pat Cooligan's studio the Ottawa Academy of Martial Arts on Sunday, Dec. 8 from 6-8 p.m. Members of the public are welcome. Call 613-728-0880.

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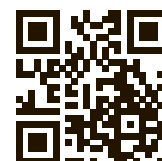
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An 'outright lie': Ford denies he offered \$5K and a car for video

Wiretap revelations.

Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly calls new allegations 'troubling'

Allegations that Rob Ford offered purported gang members money and a car in exchange for a video are an "outright lie," the Toronto mayor said Thursday amid new questions about why police did not arrest him.

Speaking on an American radio station, the scandal-plagued mayor quickly tried to change the topic when asked about the latest claims against him.

"You can talk to my lawyers about it," Ford told The Sports Junkies, a morning show based in Washington, D.C.

"I'm here to talk football, guys. So if you want to talk football, talk football; but if



Toronto Mayor Rob Ford uses a security guard as a shield amid a throng of media at Toronto City Hall on Thursday. CHRIS YOUNG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

you want to talk about other things, then unfortunately I'm going to have to let you go."

The latest allegations, which have not been proven in court, are contained in wiretap summaries put together as part of

a guns and gangs investigation that were in a police document released Wednesday.

The intercepts reveal men talking with familiarity about the mayor, and suggest they had supplied him with drugs

and plotted to blackmail him with photographs of him doing narcotics, police said.

Ford said nothing on arrival at city hall Thursday but Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly, who has taken on many of the mayor's

responsibilities, said the latest allegations would not affect city business. Kelly did call allegations that Ford was consorting with drug traffickers and gang members troubling.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Councillors want answers

Why wasn't he arrested?

Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly has called allegations that Ford was consorting with drug traffickers and gang members troubling.

Some city councillors called on investigators to explain why they did not arrest the mayor, but police have consistently said they didn't have sufficient evidence to do so and Ford's status as mayor had nothing to do with it.

Investigators have asked to interview Ford, but he has refused on the advice of his lawyer, Dennis Morris, who called the latest allegations baseless.

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Woman unknowingly live-tweets husband's deadly car accident

A Washington state woman who regularly monitors police-scanner traffic unknowingly live-tweeted about her husband's death in a freeway crash.

In a series of gut-wrenching tweets on Wednesday that grew more frantic, the Vancouver, Wash., mother first tweeted how horrible it was when she learned someone had died on Interstate 205 near the Oregon border.

Caran Johnson, who uses the handle @ScanCouver, then told her Twitter followers that she was trying not to panic because her husband, who drives the freeway, wasn't picking up his phone and was late getting home.

"I'm a basketcase," she tweeted.

Johnson also worried because her husband had epilepsy and was feeling faint when he left work early. She wondered whether he might have pulled over somewhere and fretted about how long she should wait for him before calling police.

As the events unfolded, she messaged Washington State Patrol spokesman Will Finn directly, asking whether he had descriptions of the vehicles involved in the collision. Finn said he didn't, but it struck him as odd so he began looking into the crash.

"I contacted the investigator and we put two and two together. I realized I had a situation on my hands," Finn said Thursday.

Troopers later went to Johnson's home to tell her that her husband, 47-year-old Craig Johnson, had died in the collision.

"It hits very close to home," said Abbi Russell, a Washington Transportation Department spokeswoman who is familiar with tweets from @ScanCouver. "Yes, it is social media, but it is a community of its own."

Finn said he held off posting a crash photo on Twitter after Caran Johnson messaged him asking about the accident, just in case her

Heartrending tweet

"it's him. he died."

Caran Johnson
Tweeting about her husband's car crash, after troopers arrived at her house to tell her he had died

husband had been involved. He said he has never met Caran Johnson but the two follow each other on Twitter.

"It's a terrible situation. We don't want to tell anybody over social media that they have lost a family member. We would never do that," Finn said.

Caran Johnson received an outpouring of messages on Twitter after the crash.

"Thank you all so much for the prayers and thoughts," she tweeted.

Finn said investigators did not suspect drugs or alcohol played a role in the crash. Asked whether Craig Johnson's epilepsy contributed, Finn said the accident was still under investigation.

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Fraud. U.S. claims Russian diplomats lied about income for health benefits

Dozens of current or former Russian diplomats and their spouses enjoyed luxury vacations and spent tens of thousands of dollars on concert tickets, fine clothing and helicopter rides as they lied about their incomes to get the U.S. government to pay their health-care bills with money meant for the poor, U.S. federal prosecutors said Thursday.

The diplomats were among 49 individuals charged in a complaint unsealed in federal court in Manhattan, though no arrests were made and only 11 of the diplomats and their spouses remained in the United States. The complaint said Medicaid, a health care program for the poor, lost about \$1.5 million in the scheme since 2004.

The defendants include employees of Russia's consulate and its mission to the UN, as well as trade representative, according to the criminal complaint.

Harsh words

"Diplomacy should be about extending hands, not picking pockets in the host country."

U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara

The complaint alleges that the defendants submitted fraudulent applications for medical benefits for pregnancies, births and care for young children. Federal prosecutors said the diplomats qualified for Medicaid benefits by underreporting their income, often by tens of thousands of dollars.

The complaint said that meanwhile the diplomats and their spouses spent tens of thousands of dollars on vacations, fancy watches, expensive jewelry and designer clothing at luxury retail stores including Bloomingdale's, Tiffany & Co., Jimmy Choo, Swarovski and others.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Lions, tigers and liligers!

Six-month-old liliger cub Eva plays in the snow with her mother, Zita, in a zoo in Novosibirsk, Russia, Thursday. The cub's mother is a tiger — half-lioness, half-tiger — and her father is a lion, Sam.

ILNAR SALAKHIEV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vatican city. Former priest Williams marries the mother of his child

Thomas Williams, formerly the public face of the disgraced Legion of Christ religious order who left the priesthood after admitting he fathered a child, is getting married this weekend to the child's mother, The Associated Press has learned.

The bride is the daughter of former U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See, Mary Ann Glendon, one of Pope Francis' top advisers. Her daughter, Elizabeth Lev, is a Rome-based art historian and columnist for the Legion-run Zenit news agency, which Williams published for over a decade while he was in the order.

Williams admitted last year that he had fathered a child several years earlier. At the time Williams was the most publicly prominent priest in the 950-strong order. He is the author of books such as 2008's *Knowing Right From Wrong: A Christian Guide to Conscience*, and was a commentator for the U.S. broadcaster CBS.

Williams apologized for "this grave transgression"

More to the story?

The wedding closes a circle of sorts, even as it raises some uncomfortable questions:

- Was Williams already in a relationship with Lev when she became a regular contributor to the magazine he published?
- Did family ties to Williams influence Glendon in her defence of the Legion and its disgraced founder despite credible reports that the founder was a pedophile?

against his vows of celibacy and said he had stayed on as a priest because he hoped to move beyond "this sin in my past" to do good work for the church.

Williams left the priesthood in May to care for his son. He and Lev are due to marry on Saturday in the United States.

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Kenya

Venezuelan ambassador's bag used to traffic drugs

Testifying Wednesday in the trial of a former diplomat charged in the killing of the acting Venezuelan ambassador, a driver at the embassy in Nairobi said the embassy's diplomatic bag was used to traffic drugs.

The embassy's former first secretary is charged with murder in the killing of acting Ambassador Olga Fonseca. She was found strangled in the embassy's official residence on July 27, 2012. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Eastern Europe

Moldova's official language changed

Moldova's Constitutional Court ruled Thursday that the country's official language should be changed to Romanian from Moldovan.

Moldovans and Romanians speak the same language with slight variations. The language was renamed Moldovan under Soviet rule to separate the country from Romania.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Boss. Born to Run original lyric sheet sells at Sotheby's for \$197,000

A handwritten, working lyric sheet for Bruce Springsteen's 1975 hit *Born to Run* sold for \$197,000 US on Thursday at Sotheby's.

The document used to be in the collection of Springsteen's former manager, Mike Appel, according to Sotheby's. It did not reveal the identity of either the seller or the buyer, a person bidding by telephone.

Most of the lines in this rough 1974 version, written in Long Branch, N.J., are apparently unpublished and unrecorded, but the manuscript does include "a nearly perfected chorus," the auction house said.

The title track of Springsteen's 1975 album has revved up generations of fans — some of whom still refer to themselves as "tramps," as in the song.

Springsteen is known to scrawl his songwriting stream-of-consciousness-style in notebooks. There are also some notes in the margins — "wild" and "angels" and a word that looks like "velocity," with the letter T in Springsteen's curlicue cursive.

"Although Springsteen is known to have an intensive drafting process, few manuscripts of *Born to Run* are available, with the present example being one of only two identified that include the most famous lines in the song," Sotheby's said.

The *Born to Run* manuscript was included in a sale of fine books and manuscripts. It had a pre-sale estimate of \$70,000 to \$100,000.

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A page from the handwritten manuscript of Bruce Springsteen's 1975 hit *Born to Run*.

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Brother of dead soldier speaks out

A matter of life and death. Help with post-traumatic stress desperately needed for those in the military, Kevin McNeil says

The younger brother of a soldier whose death has raised questions about the Canadian military's treatment of those with post-traumatic stress disorder says members of the military need to know help is available if they are suffering.

Speaking before Warrant Officer Michael McNeil's funeral Thursday, Kevin McNeil said PTSD is a problem that is not going to stop, but the risks can be minimized.

"The most we can do is maybe slow it down," McNeil said outside the armoury in Truro.

"As much money as government is going to pour into this, it's not going to stop. What we can do is

make more people aware, talk to these soldiers, let them know their jobs aren't in jeopardy and we're here for them."

McNeil's death at Canadian Forces Base Petawawa, northwest of Ottawa, is among four recent suicides in the military.

The Armed Forces acknowledges it will be dealing with an increased number of PTSD cases in the next decade as the stress of combat takes hold in those who have returned from the fighting in Afghanistan.

McNeil, 39, was a member 3rd Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment.

McNeil said he wants his brother remembered as a family man first and secondly as a hero to his country.

McNeil's coffin was carried into the armoury by an honour guard made up of McNeil's comrades in the Royal Canadian Regiment, assisted by his brother Kevin and cousin Tim McNeil.

Quoted

"He gave everything to his country. He was a strong man and will be missed forever."

Kevin McNeil, brother of Warrant Officer Michael McNeil

During the funeral service, Lt. Kendra Mellish, the widow of Warrant Officer Frank Mellish, a soldier killed in Afghanistan in September 2006, gave a reflection on her friend.

She said after her husband died, McNeil helped care for her children and would meet her when he came back from tours.

"Only seven short years ago, he was in this same position, paying homage to his friend (Frank)," she said.

She offered comfort to McNeil's two daughters, one son and one stepson.

"Be proud of the hero he was," she said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Members of The Royal Canadian Regiment carry the casket at the funeral for Warrant Office Michael Robert McNeil at the Truro Armouries in Truro, N.S., on Thursday. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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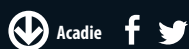
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C-section forced on mentally ill woman

Britain. Risk of her womb rupturing in delivery; court approved use of 'reasonable restraint' for the surgery

A newly released court judgment says that doctors were

medically justified in forcing an Italian woman to have a cesarean section last year because it was in her best interests.

At a hearing of Britain's Court of Protection in August 2012, Justice Nicholas Mostyn declared doctors should be allowed to force Alessandra Pacchieri, 35, to have a C-section because a natural delivery risked rup-

turing her womb.

There were also concerns that if Pacchieri was uncooperative when she went into labour, doctors would be unable to monitor the baby's heartbeat and to see whether Pacchieri's womb might rupture.

In his decision, Mostyn authorized the use of "reasonable restraint" to perform the C-section safely.

Pacchieri previously had two elective C-sections and suffered from "a significant mental disorder which is psychotic in nature," Mostyn wrote in his declaration. She had been detained in an east London hospital for several weeks before having the C-section.

The Court of Protection makes decisions for people deemed unable to decide for

themselves. It said the ruling was released because of public interest in the case.

Pacchieri is now contesting a British decision to put the child, a girl, up for adoption. Pacchieri's name was disclosed in a press release by her lawyer Stefano Oliva, which said she will appeal against her baby's adoption.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"A predictable home could only be secured by way of adoption."

A Brit court ruled in February, although the mom "very much wished" to parent the baby girl, the ruling said.

Kawartha Lakes, Ont.

Mystery woman leaves 'uranium' with police; no ID

Police are looking for a woman who walked into a police station with a container labelled "85 per cent uranium."

Kawartha Lakes Police say she was asking for advice on how to dispose of it. Cops believe the material came from a Kirkland Lake mine where her grandfather worked.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Social media plea

Lost suitcase full of Christmas gifts returned

A Regina woman who lost her suitcase on the highway is no longer singing the blues. Trina Owens reached out on social media and Kijiji after her suitcase fell off the back of a truck. It was full of Christmas presents she'd just bought on a shopping trip to the U.S. Her plea paid off — the case was returned. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Demo halted for Thai king

An anti-Government protester holds a picture of the Thai King Bhumibol Adulyadej as prayers are said during a celebration of his 86th birthday at the democracy monument which protesters have been occupying in Bangkok. Protesters agreed to halt their activities to pay respect on the king's birthday. ED WRAY/GETTY IMAGES

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A woman and her dog are rescued by the RNLI or Royal National Lifeboat Institute, from floods as heavy seas and high tides sweep across the country, in Rhyl, Wales, on Thursday. PETER BYRNE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Deadly storm pounds Europe

Damaging winds.
Gusts up to 229 km/h
slam Scotland and
paralyze train service

Hurricane-force gusts hit Britain on Thursday as part of a powerful storm moving across Europe, disrupting air travel, halting trains and leaving tens of thousands of homes without electricity. Accidents linked to the storm killed three people.

Authorities evacuated some 10,000 homes along the eastern English coast after warning that the country could face its worst tidal surge in 60 years. The

Thames Barrier — a series of huge metal plates that can be raised across the entire river — was being closed late Thursday to protect London from the surge.

Tidal floods — caused as the storm drives huge amounts of seawater toward the land — were expected in Britain, Germany and Scandinavia, together with freezing high winds from Greenland.

The storm plowed into Scotland overnight, slamming the highlands with gusts up to 229 km/h. Trains were suspended for much of the day, but began to run fitfully later as some routes were cleared of debris.

Rescue teams ferried resi-

Taking cover

10,000

The number of homes that have evacuated along the eastern English coast

dents to safety by boat in north Wales, while officials in other areas handed out sandbags and set up emergency shelters.

Transportation troubles were reported throughout northwestern Europe. All flights to and from Copenhagen's international airport were halted late Thursday due to the storm, officials said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Homicide charge. Deadly incident comes back to haunt Bollywood star

Indian movie star Salman Khan will face a fresh trial on a homicide charge for a fatal road accident more than 11 years ago.

Police said that Khan drove his car into a group of people sleeping on a Mumbai sidewalk in September 2002, killing one and injuring four.

The actor was on trial for a lesser offence of causing death by negligence, which carries a maximum penalty of two years in prison. However, after a magistrate in

Mumbai heard the evidence, he invoked the more serious charge of culpable homicide not amounting to murder against the actor in February.

Khan could face up to 10 years in prison if convicted of culpable homicide. He also faces charges of negligent driving and causing grievous hurt to the victims.

Khan has pleaded not guilty to the charges and sought a fresh trial, which Judge D. W. Deshpande grant-

ed Thursday. The judge said that all the witnesses would be re-examined.

The pretrial is set for Dec. 23.

"These are far more serious charges, so there should be a fair opportunity (for Khan) to defend himself," his lawyer, Shrikant Shivade, said.

Khan, one of Bollywood's most popular stars, has acted in about 90 Hindi-language films in his 25-year career.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Loading a victim into an ambulance after Yemen attack. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brazen attack on Yemen's Defence Ministry

Sanaa. Dark day for U.S. ally, whose shoreline is close to vital oil-shipping lanes

The Yemen Defence Ministry came under attack Thursday from a suicide car bomber and heavily armed gunmen, killing 52 people and wounding 167 in a fierce battle in the heart of the capital of Sanaa.

Among the dead at the Defence Ministry complex, which also houses a military hospital, were soldiers and civilians, including seven foreigners — two Germans, two Vietnamese, two Filipinos and one Indian, according to the Supreme Security Commission.

Nobody immediately claimed responsibility for the two-stage assault, but suicide bombings and complex attacks are the hallmarks of al-Qaida.

The morning attack, the deadliest in Sanaa since May 2012, underlined the ability of insurgents to strike at the government as

Alerted

The Yemen Defence Ministry was tipped off last week that a major attack in the capital was imminent, prompting authorities to reinforce security.

- Yemen is strategically located at the southwest corner of the Arabian Peninsula.

they exploit the instability that has plagued the country — a U.S. ally — for more than two years.

The U.S. considers Yemen's al-Qaida branch to be the most active in the world.

The government said all the militants who stormed the complex Thursday were killed, but it did not say how many. State TV showed a dozen bodies, identifying them as the attackers. Military helicopters hovered over the site as soldiers and ambulances arrived and gunfire echoed in the streets.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

British soldier's death

'As if Allah had chosen him,' accused's trial hears

A man accused of murdering a British soldier on a London street says he attacked the first serviceman he spotted, saying "it was almost as if Allah had chosen him."

Michael Adebolajo told police in an interview played Thursday at his trial that he

and his co-accused decided a soldier was "the most fair target because he joins the army with kind of an understanding that your life is at risk.... We sat in wait and it just so happened that he was the soldier that was spotted first," Adebolajo said in the police interview. Adebolajo and Michael Adebowale are accused of running Fusilier Lee Rigby down with a car before hacking him to death.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Libya

American killed while jogging

An American teacher was shot to death as he was jogging in Benghazi on Thursday, highlighting persistently tenuous security in the eastern Libyan city where the U.S. ambassador was killed last year.

There were no credible claims of responsibility, but suspicion is likely to

fall on Islamic militants active in Benghazi. It came five days after al-Qaida's American spokesman called upon Libyans to attack U.S. interests everywhere as revenge for U.S. special forces snatching an al-Qaida suspect off the streets of Tripoli in October and whisking him out of the country. The victim taught chemistry at Benghazi's International School which follows a British curriculum.

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Use bitcoin at your own risk, warns China's central bank

'Virtual goods.'
Country bars banks from handling the cybercurrency

Bitcoins suffered a new setback after China's central bank said Thursday its banks and payment systems are barred from handling the virtual currency.

The central bank said bitcoins did not qualify as a currency but private individuals still are allowed to trade them at their own risk.

Bitcoins are created, distributed, and authenticated independently of any bank or government. Their relative anonymity holds out the promise of being able to spend money across the In-



A customer pays for drinks at a pub using bitcoins earlier this year in Sydney, Australia, using a QR code on a smartphone. GETTY IMAGES

ternet without scrutiny.

"Bitcoins are virtual goods that have no legal status or monetary equivalent and should not be used as currency," said a Chinese central bank statement.

It said financial institutions and payment systems were not allowed to use bitcoin prices for products and could not sell, trade or store bitcoins.

"Ordinary people are free to participate in transactions at their own risk," the central bank said.

Despite wild swings in value, the virtual currency has been moving toward broader acceptance. A growing number of companies accept bitcoins, which can be converted into cash.

Other governments are wary of the cybercurrency. In July, Thailand's central bank banned trading and use of bitcoins.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Fast-food workers not lovin' their McSalaries

Fast-food workers rally for better wages outside a McDonald's restaurant in Chicago, Thursday. Demonstrations planned in 100 U.S. cities are part of push by labour unions, worker advocacy groups and Democrats to raise the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 US. Protesters are calling for pay of \$15 US an hour, but the figure is seen more as a rallying point. The push for higher pay faces an uphill battle. The industry competes aggressively on value offerings and companies have warned they would need to raise prices if wages were hiked. Most fast-food locations are owned and operated by franchisees, which lets companies such as McDonald's Corp. and Burger King Worldwide Inc. say they don't control worker pay. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Baby steps

Twitter leans in, adds woman to board of directors

Twitter has named Marjorie Scardino as a director, adding a woman to the all-white male board for which it's been sharply criticized.

Scardino, 66, was the CEO of Pearson PLC, a publishing and education company, from 1997 to 2012, Twitter Inc. said in a filing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute



DOLLAR
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TSX
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GOLD
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Natural gas: \$4.14 US (+18¢)
Dow Jones: 15,821.51 (-68.26)

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High EI rates padding feds' budget: Watchdog

The Harper government may need to depend on artificially high EI premiums, asset sales and spending restraint to balance the budget in time for the 2015 election, the federal budget watchdog says in a new report.

But the new assessment from the parliamentary budget office also projects that the government will be able to achieve its target of a balanced budget in 2015 and even amass a bigger surplus in the critical election year than the government projects.

The report says its baseline projection puts the 2015

Creative accounting

A big chunk of the 2015-16 and 2016-17 surpluses is based on Finance Minister Jim Flaherty's stated intention to keep EI premiums frozen until 2016, the report states.

- Under normal rules, the budget office said, premiums should start coming down in 2015 when the EI fund flips from deficit to surplus.

budget surplus at \$4.6 billion — almost \$1 billion more

than the official estimate contained in last month's economic update paper.

As well, the budget office projection shows next year's deficit at \$3.5 billion — \$2 billion lower than Ottawa's estimate in last month's economic update — and within an eyelash of a balanced budget, once a \$3-billion cushion for surprises is factored out.

But the report shows that the improvement from the economic update is dependent not so much on a strong economy but on extraordinary measures and keeping payroll taxes higher than need be. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SolarCity to back up solar with Tesla batteries

The solar panel installer SolarCity is beginning to address one of solar power's big drawbacks: The sun doesn't always shine.

The solution: big battery packs that will provide backup power while lowering electric bills. The supplier: electric car maker Tesla Motors, whose CEO Elon Musk is also the chairman of SolarCity.

"Our goal is to be an energy provider, to provide all energy services," said SolarCity CEO Lyndon Rive.

The batteries will be offered first to commercial customers because of the way many commercial electric bills are calculated. SolarCity is also conducting a pilot program in California for homeowners, but because residential bills

are calculated differently — and the batteries are so expensive — it could be years before batteries make financial sense for homes.

"We know this is a long-term problem, so we are investing in it now," Rive said.

SolarCity shares rose \$2.83 US, or 5.4 per cent, to \$55 US in trading before the opening bell. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Freedom fighter, world icon

Analysis. Why Nelson Mandela was important to South Africa and the world



ELISABETH BRAW
Metro World News

Nelson Mandela's cell of five square metres in Robben Island, where he spent 18 of his 27 years in prison, is now a virtual shrine for tourists and political figures alike. But Mandela was much more than a long-suffering prisoner. He was a world leader and a 20th century icon.

"His building a future for South Africa was a huge achievement," says Stephen Chan, professor of international relations at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London and author of numerous books on southern Africa.

"He helped draft what may be the world's best constitution. He was instrumental in establishing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which was crucial in helping

the country deal with its apartheid past. He was also a highly moral politician, setting the tone for the whole continent by stepping down after one term."

Lilias van Wyk, a white South African who lived through apartheid, is full of admiration for Mandela.

"There's nobody like him here in South Africa. (Our former president and Mandela's deputy president Thabo Mbeki) was a gentleman, but our current president is more interested in ladies than anything else," she tells Metro.

Indeed, Mandela succeeded where so many other freedom-fighters-turned-leaders have failed: as a democratic politician and later president, the former communist united his country.

Despite the black majority's pent-up anger over decades of discrimination, no civil war erupted. The transition to democracy under Mandela's leadership proceeded in a remarkably peaceful and orderly fashion.

In his presidential inauguration speech, Mandela urged South Africans to practise for-

Quote

"We all think he was a fantastic man. It's amazing what he accomplished without any violence or shooting. And his dignity! I say, 'Thank you, Lord, that we've had him.'"

Lilias van Wyk, a white South African who lived through apartheid

giveness, saying in Afrikaans, "Wat is verby verby," which translates to "What is past is past." And, through the power of his moral leadership, Mandela brought South Africa back into the international fold.

But, Africa watchers note, Mandela was no angel, inherently speaking.

"He became a saint because we made him one," says Chan. "We made him one to justify not putting enough pressure on the apartheid government to release him."

And though South African lore sees him as an old man who magically emerged from

decades in prison to govern his country with great success, the reality is a bit more nuanced. Explains Chan: "The four years between his release and his election as president in 1994 were turbulent. He had to go on a steep learning curve."

And, while Mandela was in charge as president, he mainly provided the strategic direction and left the nitty-gritty of governing to his deputy, Thabo Mbeki. That's in no way negative, but the frail 76-year-old didn't single-handedly perform the arduous task of running the country.

Even after stepping down, Mandela remained an icon at home and around the world: almost uniquely among dissidents elected to political power, he left with his integrity and popularity intact. For South Africa, the African continent, even the world he was a desperately needed icon of democratic success.

"We're all praying for a peaceful transition now," says van Wyk. "We're on our knees 24-7."

But the adoration of Mandela will no doubt continue.



South Africa's first black president, Nelson Mandela, revisits his prison cell on Robben Island, where he spent 18 of his 27 years in prison, in 1994.

GETTY IMAGES

SOURCES: BBC, AP, AFP, JING, PBS, SABC
GRAPH: CLARA ROHAB; TEXT: ANTHONY D'AMSTON

5 THINGS WE'LL REMEMBER ABOUT MANDELA

1

FROM ROYALTY, LEGAL ACTIVISM TO "TERRORISM"

Nelson Mandela, raised by an African royal family in the Eastern Cape region of South Africa, studied law at university and opened the country's first black law firm at the age of 30. His zeal to fight apartheid led him to co-found an armed wing of the African National Congress, classified as a terrorist group at the time.

2

ROBBED OF LIBERTY, ON ROBBER ISLAND

In 1964, Mandela was jailed for life for plotting to overthrow the government by sabotage. For 18 years of his sentence, he was interned at the infamous Robben Island prison in a tiny cell barely a few square metres in size. He was locked away, but not forgotten, as his power of resistance against apartheid spread from behind the bars to across the world.

3

MANDELA'S FREE AFTER MORE THAN A QUARTER OF A CENTURY

On February 11, 1990, donning his wife Winnie's hand and dressed in a dignified brown suit, Mandela punches the air in a victory salute as he walks away from the gates of Victor Verster Prison. Mandela's freedom after 27 years in jail was one of the most iconic memories of the 20th century. Mandela was released following a relaxation of apartheid laws.

4

SOUTH AFRICA'S FIRST BLACK PRESIDENT ... AND OLDEST

In 1994, after more than 300 years of white rule, South Africa has its first black president after the country's first fully democratic election. At age 75, he became South Africa's oldest ever elected head of state.

5

BLACK AND WHITE UNITED, THROUGH SPORT

The following year, in another epic historic — and sporting — moment of the 20th century, Mandela presents the Rugby World Cup trophy to captain Francois Pienaar, an Afrikaner (wearing a shirt of the South African rugby team [once reviled by the black population], Mandela's gesture was seen as a huge step of unity between blacks and whites).

1918-2013

1

visitor a year for 30 minutes was all Mandela was allowed to receive as a prisoner on Robben Island. He could write and receive one letter every half a year while interned there.



"If you want to make peace with your enemy, you have to work with your enemy. Then he becomes your partner."

Mandela on dealing with his opponents. He was lauded worldwide for working with those authorities that once persecuted him, rather than remaining embittered.

DID YOU KNOW?

MADIBA: Throughout his life, Mandela was called Madiba, and respectfully called Madiba, the name of the Xhosa-speaking Thembu tribe clan to which he belonged.

MASTER OF DISGUISE: A document "The Black Propaganda" during his capture with South African authorities because of his black face and the fact he was a fugitive.

KEEN CLASSICAL MUSIC FAN: Handel and Tchaikovsky were ranked among his favourite musicians.

A TASTE FOR THE SIMPLE: Mandela's favourite dishes included dumplings made with sour milk, local stew with vegetables and rice — that's the stomach lining of animals.

MANDELA THE "TERRORIST": For years, Mandela was labelled as the "United States' terror watch list" due to his leadership in "terrorist" organization African National Congress against the old apartheid regime, and needed a waiver from the Secretary of State to travel to the US. In 2001, he was removed from the terror list.

REUTERS/Erik De Castro



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Synopsis

"Well, it's Christmas time, pretty baby" ... and the Reel Guys are watching films... With our apologies to Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller, who wrote those lyrics to Elvis Presley's Santa Claus is Back in Town — that song pretty much sums up what the holiday season means for us. Next week we'll be back to reviewing the big releases of the year, but before we get to that we thought we'd have a look at movies to get us in the Christmas spirit. They may not all be on Santa's nice list.



Billy Bob Thornton's *Bad Santa* is an antidote to all that icky holiday cheer. CONTRIBUTED

Reel Guys

RICHARD
CROUSE AND
MARK BRESLIN



Santa's back in town

Festive features. The Reel Guys share their favourite holiday films, but not all of them bring comfort and joy

Richard: James Stewart stars in one of the movies that always puts me in the mood for Christmas, but its not the one you think. Sure, It's A Wonderful Life is a classic and yuletastic, but I also enjoy The Shop Around The Corner. It's a Christmassy romance that sees shop co-workers Stewart and Margaret Sullivan at one another's throats at work, unaware that they are also anonymously courting one another as pen pals. All becomes clear on Christmas Eve and

they unwrap a big ol' gift basket of love. It's almost as heartwarming as a giant mug of hot chocolate.

Mark: Richard, as I'm Jewish, the Christmas holiday doesn't have quite the emotional pull on me that it might have on you. So, come Christmas Eve our family gathers around the TV, where we watch *Bad Santa* until we fall asleep from convulsive laughter. The story of an alcoholic, womanizing, foul-mouthed Santa is a delightful antidote to all that icky cheer I'm supposed to feel. Then, when the novelty dies down, I get with the program and watch *Elf*. But I wear my Grinch mask just in case a tear is shed.

RC: That green synthetic fur is great for soaking up tears! But an antidote to the icky cheer

you describe are two films set during the holidays without an ounce of tinsel treacle between them. In *The Long Kiss Goodnight* an amnesiac played by Geena Davis is outed as a former hired killer when she is recognized playing Mrs. Claus in a Christmas parade. The title *A Christmas Tale* sounds traditional enough, but the story focuses on the bitter rather than the sweet. The English title of this Catherine Deneuve dramedy could easily have been *Cancer for Christmas*, but despite the downer topic it's complex, funny and touching.

MB: I've never seen *A Christmas Tale*, Richard, thanks for the tip. But if it's holiday downers we're looking for, consider *Black Christmas*, a 1974 slasher flick starring Olivia Hussey. I guess you could double-bill this

one with the 2006 remake, but that might be, ahem, overkill.

RC: Many years ago, on the first Christmas the PMC — my Preferred Movie Companion — and I spent together, I screened *Black Christmas* for her, which almost stopped the relationship before it had a chance to really get going. I love the slaying slasher story. Her, not so much. I quickly rebounded with *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation*, which made the yuletide bright once again. Thanks, Chevy Chase, for saving Christmas and my relationship!

MB: Well, for a Jewish guy like me, I'll just have to be content with Adam Sandler's *Hanukkah* animation classic, *Eight Crazy Nights*, and a glass of Manischewitz!

2 SCENE

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- Results will be highlighted at the end of December in Metro!
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Women rule at Sundance 2014

Lineup look-ahead.

Comedy giants try their hand at more serious roles

Ladies will continue to drive the feature lineup at the Sundance Film Festival as Robert Redford's independent-cinema fair celebrates its 30th anniversary next month in Park City, Utah.

At the top of the list released Wednesday, female directors dominate the competition, with eight out of the 16 films helmed by women. And in front of the camera, women reign supreme — only this time, comedians eclipse the layout.

Actresses like Amy Poehler, Kristen Wiig, Molly Shannon, Aubrey Plaza, Amy Sedaris and Jenny Slate all appear in features playing at the upcoming fest. And in the case of Wiig, Shannon and Plaza, we have funny gals turning serious.

Following her dramatic turn in the upcoming *The*



Bill Hader and Kristen Wiig take a turn for the serious at Sundance in *The Skeleton Twins*. CONTRIBUTED

Secret Life of Walter Mitty, Wiig will play the twin sister of fellow SNL alum Bill Hader in *The Skeleton Twins*. In the film, which also stars Luke Wilson and Ty Burrell, the siblings co-incidentally cheat death on the same day.

Shannon and Plaza will star in *Life After Beth*, which focuses on a mysterious second chance at love after death.

"Comedians are big this year, especially with what we are calling 'funny ladies,'" said Sundance director John

Cooper. "A lot of these roles are setting up typical comedic actresses in roles that are a little deeper. In general, a lot of actors are being drawn to independent film because of the quality of interesting roles that they can play."

Sundance films typically

By the numbers

Altogether, 117 feature-length films, selected out of 12,218 titles submitted (72 more than for 2013), are scheduled for Sundance 2014. Some 37 countries and 54 first-time filmmakers will be represented.

offer the ideal fabric and draw for performers who are departing from their usual Hollywood formulas.

Girls sitcom creator Lena Dunham, whose debut movie, *Tiny Furniture*, won best narrative feature when it premiered at the South by Southwest film festival in 2010, will appear in writer/director Joe Swanberg's *Happy Christmas*, also starring Anna Kendrick.

In her first feature since *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2*, Kristen Stewart plays a guard stationed at Guantanamo Bay in budding writer/director Peter Sattler's *Camp X-Ray*.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Superhero

Gal Gadot to play Wonder Woman

Wonder Woman is finally coming to the big screen. Israel-born actress Gal Gadot has been cast as Wonder Woman in Warner Bros.' superhero team-up film with Batman and Superman, the studio announced Wednesday. Already starring in the currently untitled film are Ben Affleck as Batman and Henry Cavill as Superman. Created in the 1940s and outfitted in patriotic colours, Wonder Woman was most famously played by Lynda Carter in the 1970s Wonder Woman television series. A sequel to *Man of Steel*, the Batman-Superman film is set to begin production early next year, and to be released in July 2015.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Gal Gadot. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

christian bale benedict cumberbatch jessie rena james van der beek amy adams amy lawrence

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Documentary



Inequality For All

Director. Jacob Kornbluth

Star. Robert Reich

• • • • •

Bill Clinton's former labour secretary Robert Reich is the star of Jacob Kornbluth's documentary about widening income inequality, which won Sundance's Special Jury Prize earlier this year. Reich, now a professor at UC Berkeley, demonstrates how income is concentrated in the U.S., driving home the point that as inequality rises, upward mobility decreases. The gregarious Reich forgoes numbing statistics in favour of dynamic graphs and visuals, but Kornbluth's sole focus on his protagonist leaves you eager for other opinions.

MANORI RAVINDRAN

Drama



Empire of Dirt

Director. Peter Stebbings

Stars. Cara Gee, Shay Eyre

• • • • •

Cash strapped and dealing with Peekka, an obstinate 13-year-old who's overdosed on paint fumes, single mother Lena returns to the home she was kicked out of as a teenager. The trip sends both mother and daughter reeling as Lena confronts her past while Peekka is introduced to the family she never knew she had. Hamstrung by a script rife with stilted dialogue and clichés, lead actresses Cara Gee and Shay Eyre do their best. But the film's heart, the troubled relationships between Peekka, Lena and her mother, shine through as each one falls only to be picked up by the other two.

IAN GORMELY

Crime/Drama



Out of the Furnace

Director. Scott Cooper

Stars. Christian Bale, Casey Affleck

• • • • •

This movie is bleaker than the most mournful George Jones song. When steel mill worker Russell Baze (Christian Bale) emerges from jail, he finds his live-in girlfriend (Zoe Saldana) no longer lives in and his Iraq War vet brother Rodney (Casey Affleck) is having trouble with civilian life. When Rodney disappears after a bare-knuckle fight run by Harlan DeGroat (Woody Harrelson) Russell attempts vigilante justice. Bale and Affleck hand in intense performances but Harrelson shines as the best movie scuzzball in recent memory. It's a portrait of a hard life drawn in hard-edged detail, with no relief for the characters or audience. RICHARD CROUSE



Stories We Tell has already picked up awards from the New York Film Critics Circle and the National Board of Review. CONTRIBUTED

Promoting Polley: Doc hits award circuit

Stories We Tell.

Sarah Polley's true tale of her family secret has become a serious Oscar contender

Sarah Polley's intimate family tale *Stories We Tell* was supposed to be the little-seen documentary the actress-turned-director made between larger dramatic features.

Instead, it's become a serious Oscar contender and widely acclaimed documentary debut, garnering plenty of attention south of the border, including awards from the New York Film Critics Circle for best non-fiction film and the National Board of Review for best documentary.

Now, she and producer Anita Lee are gearing up for an awards circuit they hope will culminate with a golden statue at the Academy Awards.

"It's really, really exciting,"

Lee says of recently making the short list for a best documentary Oscar nomination, alongside 14 other films.

"It's so incredibly awesome."

Lee says Polley "is absolutely thrilled" with the surprise acclaim for her intensely personal film, which explores a long-held family secret about her true parentage.

They learned of making the Oscar short list Tuesday, the same day they were handed the best non-fiction prize by the New York Film Critics Circle. The National Board of Review announced it picked Polley's film as best doc on Wednesday.

Documentary branch members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will now choose five nominees from a pool of 15.

Lee says it's an honour just to make the short list, but she admits that she and Polley are ready to promote *Stories We Tell* to academy voters to boost their chances of snagging a nomination.

On promoting the film

"I really am learning that it's not just about the merit of the film, it is very strategic and political and it involves marketing and a very big Oscar machinery that exists in the U.S. industry," says Lee, a producer for the National Film Board based in Toronto. "And so I feel like it's a lottery but the odds are not bad so we're hopeful."

That means hosting key screenings in Los Angeles and New York, and making sure they attend events like the International Documentary Association's IDA Awards on Friday. Lee says she's heading to L.A. on Thursday for the bash, where *Stories We Tell* will compete for the best feature award against *The Act of Killing*, *Blackfish*, *Let the Fire Burn* and *The Square*.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Food: That tasty thing that ties all of us together

Spinning Plates.

New film documents three very different restaurants and their passionate people

The director of the new restaurant documentary *Spinning Plates* has a theory as to why TV programs about food continue to be wildly popular.

"Food is just so universal and familiar to everyone. It's comfortable, it's an emotional medium," said Joseph Levy, who cut his teeth producing the Food Network program *Into the Fire*.

"Even for people who aren't self-proclaimed foodies and don't go follow the hottest pop-up restaurants ... you probably still remember with fondness the first meal you ever had with your spouse, or the night you proposed, or a Thanksgiving or holiday meal that your grandparent might have made for you."

Added the filmmaker: "In the same way that music can bring back great feelings and great memories, so can food."



Chef Grant Achatz of the restaurant, Alinea, in Chicago. CONTRIBUTED

Spinning Plates — which is screening in Toronto at the TIFF Bell Lightbox and will be released Friday on iTunes — tells the story of three very different restaurants and the passionate personalities that drive them.

Gorgeously shot, it's a loving ode to food, a topic that has captivated Levy since his childhood in Corpus Christi, Texas.

The first restaurant profiled in *Spinning Plates* is world-renowned Chicago eatery Alinea, headed up by molecular gastronomy guru Grant Achatz (whom Levy first encountered while working on *Into the Fire*). The chef is a creative marvel, constantly driven to top his own culinary masterpieces (and to land the highest possible rating from the revered Michelin

restaurant guide).

The artistry of Alinea is a far cry from Breitbach's Country Dining, the second establishment featured in *Spinning Plates*. The oldest bar and restaurant in Iowa, its specialties are pie and fried chicken, served up by the tightly knit Breitbach clan — with help from residents of the tiny community of Balltown. Rounding out the narrative is Cocina de Gabby — an upstart mom-and-pop outfit run by a struggling Mexican couple in Tucson, Ariz.

"I wanted to take three restaurants that were seemingly disparate," explains Levy, 40. "For me the movie is really about how meaningful food can be and the places that serve it." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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CHECK THEATRE DIRECTORY
FOR LOCATIONS AND SHOWTIMES

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., DEC. 6 TO THURS., DEC. 12. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Bytowne Cinema 325 Rideau St.

Empire of Dirt (14A) Fri 9:05 Sat 2:30-6:50
Sun 4:15 Mon 8:59 Tue 4:30
Inequality for All (PG) Fri-Sat 4:45
Monty Python and the Holy Grail (14A)
Sun 8:40 Mon 4:45
Philomena (PG) Fri 6:50 Sat 9:05 Sun
2:01-6:30 Mon 6:50 Tue 9:05 Wed 4:45-
6:55 Thu 4:45
Samsara (PG) Wed 9:05
Tall as the Baobab Tree (PG) Tue 6:45

Canadian Film Institute 2 Daly Ave., Suite 120

No Films Showing Today (STC) Fri-Thu

Canadian Museum of nature 240 McLeod St.

Dinosaur Passage to Pangaea 3D (STC)
Sat-Sun 10:30-1:10 Sat-Sun 11:15-1:50
Flying Monsters 3D (G) Sat-Sun 12-2:30-
3:40 Sat-Sun 12:35-3:05
No Films Showing Today (STC) Fri
Mon-Thu

Coliseum Ottawa 3090 Carling Ave.

The Book Thief (PG) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:10-
7:10-10:20 Mon-Wed 4:10-7:10-10:20 Thu
1:10-4:10-7:10-10:20
Bullett Raja (PG) Fri-Sun 1-4-7:15-10:30
Mon-Tue 4-7:15-10:30 Wed 4 Thu 1:05-
4-7:15-10:30
Delivery Man (PG) Fri-Sat 12:20-2:50-
5:20-8-10:40 Sun 12:20-5:20-8-10:40 Mon-
Wed 5:20-8-10:35 Thu 1:30-5:20-8-10:35
Die Hard (14A) Wed 9:30
Frozen (G) Fri 1:25-4:15-6:50 Sat
1-4:15-6:50 Sun 1:25-4:15-6:50 Mon-Thu
4:15-6:50
Frozen 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12-2:35-5:15-7:50-
10:25 Mon-Wed 5:15-7:50-10:25 Thu

1:15-4:45-7:20-10:10
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D
(STC) No Passes Thu 10 No Passes Thu 10
Holiday Inn (STC) Sun 12:45
Homefront (14A) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:10-
5:45-8:20-10:50 Mon-Wed 5:30-8:05-10:35
Thu 1:10-5:30-8:05-10:35
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG)
Fri 12-12:25-3:15-3:45-6:30-7-9:45-10:15
Sat-Sun 12-3:15-3:45-6:30-7-9:45-
10:15 Mon-Tue 6:15-6:45-9:30-10 Wed
6:15-9:30 Thu 4-6:15-7:15-9:30-10:30
Fri-Sun 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:45 Mon-Wed
4-7:15-10:30 Thu 1:35-6:45 Star & Strollers
Screening Thu 1
Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa (14A) Fri-
Wed 9:30 Thu 1:25-9:30
The Metropolitan Opera: Tosca - Encore
(STC) Sat 12
Out of the Furnace (14A) Fri-Sun 2-4:50-
7:45-10:40 Mon-Thu 4:50-7:45-10:40 Star
& Strollers Screening Thu 1
Ram-Leela (PG) Fri-Sun 12:10-3:30-
6:55-10:10 Mon-Wed 6:20-9:50 Thu
1:30-6:20-9:50
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Fri-Sun 1:40
Thu 1:20
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri-Wed
4:30-7:20-10:05 Thu 4:30-7:20

Landmark 7 Cinemas 111 Albert St. 3rd Floor World Exchange Plaza

12 Years a Slave (14A) Dolby Stereo Fri
3-6-9 Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun 12-3-6-9
Dolby Stereo Mon-Thu 3-6-9
The Book Thief (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri
3:15-6:15-9:15 Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun
12:15-3:15-6:15-9:15 Dolby Stereo Mon-
Thu 3:15-6:15-9:15
Dallas Buyers Club (18A) Dolby Stereo Fri
4-7-9:45 Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun 1-4-7-9:45
Dolby Stereo Mon-Wed 4-7-9:45 Dolby

Stereo Thu 3:50-6:50-9:50
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D
(STC) Dolby Stereo, No Passes Thu 10
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG)
Dolby Stereo Fri 3:30-6:30-9:30 Dolby
Stereo Sat-Sun 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 Dolby
Stereo Mon-Thu 3:30-6:30-9:30
Oldboy (18A) Dolby Stereo Fri 3:50-6:50-
9:50 Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun 12:50-3:50-
6:50-9:50 Dolby Stereo Mon-Tue 3:50-
6:50-9:50 Dolby Stereo Wed 9:50 Dolby
Stereo Thu 4-7
Out of the Furnace (14A) Dolby Stereo
Fri 3:45-6:45-9:45 Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun
12:45-3:45-6:45-9:45 Dolby Stereo Mon-
Thu 3:45-6:45-9:45
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Dolby Stereo
Fri 3:45-6:45-9:45 Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun
12:45-3:45-6:45-9:45 Dolby Stereo Mon-
Thu 3:45-6:45-9:45

Mayfair Theatre 1074 Bank St.

CBGB (14A) Fri 9:15 Sat-Sun 8:45 Wed
9:30 Thu 9
Cycling With Moliere (STC) Mon-Tue 7
Day Job Doc: A Story of Chasing Dreams
(STC) Thu 7
Gremlins (PG) Mon 9:15
Haute Cuisine (PG) Fri 7 Sat-Sun 6:30
Salt of This Sea (STC) Sun 1
The Silent Partner (STC) Tue 9:15
Warren Miller's Ticket to Ride (STC)
Sat 3:30
White Christmas (PG) Sun 4

Rainbow Cinemas St. Laurent Centre 1200 St. Laurent Blvd.

The Best Man Holiday (14A) Fri-Thu
9:55-6:30-9
Captain Phillips (14A) Fri-Thu 10:10-7:30
Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2 (G)
Fri-Thu 10-12:05-2:15-4:30

The Counselor (14A) Fri-Sat 12:10-4:45-
9:15 Sun-Mon 4:45-9:15 Tue 12:10-4:45-
9:15 Wed 4:45-9:15 Thu 12:10-4:45-9:15
Open Captioned Sun-Mon 12:10 Open
Captioned Wed 12:10
Despicable Me 2 (G) Fri-Thu 12:15-2:20-
4:25
Enough Said (PG) Fri 10:40-1-3:10-5:15-
7:20-9:30 Sat 1-3:10-5:15-7:20-9:30 Sun-
Thu 10:40-1-3:10-5:15-7:20-9:30
Escape Plan (14A) Fri-Thu 6:45-9:10
Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa (14A) Fri-
Thu 10:15-2:40-7:10
Monsters University (G) Fri-Thu 12:45-
3-5:15

South Keys 2214 Bank St.

The Book Thief (PG) Fri 10:25-1:20-4:10-
7:05-10 Sat 1:20-4:10-7:05-10 Sun-Thu
10:25-1:20-4:10-7:05-10
Captain Phillips (14A) Fri 7:10-10:05 Sat
7:10-10 Sun-Wed 7:10-10:05
Delivery Man (PG) Fri 11:20-2:10-4:50-
7:30-9:55 Sat 2:10-4:50-7:30-9:55 Sun-Thu
11:20-2:10-4:50-7:30-9:55
Free Birds (G) Fri-Wed 10:35-12:40-2:50-5
Thu 10:35-12:40-2:50
Frozen (G) Fri-Thu 10:40-1:15-4:05-7:45
Frozen 3D (G) Fri-Wed 11:50-2:25-5:05-
6:50-9:20 Thu 11:50-2:25-5:05-6:50-9:55
Gravity 3D (PG) Fri-Wed 12:20-2:35-5:10-
7:35-9:50 Thu 12:20-2:35-5:10-7:35
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D
(STC) No Passes Thu 10
Homefront (14A) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:40-
5:15-7:50-10:20
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG)
Fri-Wed 8 Thu 10:30-11:30-12-12:30-1:30-
2:45-3:15-3:45-4:40-6-6:30-8-9:15-9:45-
10:15 Fri 10:30-11:30-12-12:30-1:30-2:45-
3:15-3:45-4:40-6-6:30-7-9:15-9:45-10:15
Sat 10:30-11:30-12-1:30-2:45-3:15-3:45-
4:40-6-6:30-7-9:15-9:45-10:15 Sun-Wed

10:30-11:30-12-12:30-1:30-2:45-3:15-3:45-
4:40-6-6:30-7-9:15-9:45-10:15
Last Vegas (PG) Fri-Thu 10:10
The Metropolitan Opera: Tosca - Encore
(STC) Sat 12
The Polar Express (G) Sat 11
Royal Opera: The Nutcracker - Encore
(STC) Thu 7:30
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Fri-Thu
10:50-1:40
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri-Wed
4:25-7:25-10:10 Thu 4:25-7:25

Canadian Museum of civilization 100 rue Laurier

Jerusalem (STC) Fri 2-6 Sat 12-2-8 Sun
12-2-6 Mon 11-2 Tue 11-2-6 Wed 2-6
Thu 11-2-8 Fri 12-4-8 Sat 4-6 Sun 4
Tue-Wed 4 Thu 4-6
Kenya 3D: Animal Kingdom (STC) Fri
11-3-5 Sat 11-3-5-7 Sun 11-3-5 Mon 12
Tue 12-3-5-7 Wed 12-3-5 Thu 12-3-5-7
Fri 10-1-7 Sat-Tue 1 Wed 11-1-7

Cinéma des Galleries d'Aylmer 400 boul. Wilfrid-Lavigne

Frozen (G) Fri 3:20 Sat 10-3:20 Sun 3:20
Tue 3:20
Frozen 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:50-6:50-9:10
Mon 6:50 Tue 12:50-6:50-9:10 Wed
6:50-9:10
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug
3D (STC) Thu 10
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (G)
Fri-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:40 Mon 6:40
Tue 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:40 Wed-Thu
6:40-9:40
Il était une fois les boys (G) Fri 1:10-
3:30-7:10-9:30 Sat 10-1:10-3:30-7:10-
9:30 Sun 1:10-3:30-7:10-9:30 Mon
7:10 Tue 1:10-3:30-7:10-9:30 Wed-Thu
7:10-9:30

La reine des neiges (G) Fri-Tue 1-7-9:20
Wed-Thu 7-9:20
La reine des neiges 3D (G) Fri-Sun 3:10
Tue 3:10

Gatineau 9 120 boul. de l'Hôpital

Dallas Buyers Club (13+) Fri-Sun 4-9:50
Mon 9:50 Tue 4-9:50 Wed-Thu 9:50
Le Démantèlement (G) Fri-Sun 1:25-
7:25 Mon 7:25 Tue 1:25-7:25 Wed-Thu
7:25
Homefront (13+) Fri-Sun 3:50-9:05
Mon 9:05 Tue 3:50-9:05 Wed-Thu 9:05
Hunger Games: L'embrasement (G)
Fri-Sun 12:45-3:45-6:30-7-9:50 Mon
6:30-7-9:50 Tue 12:45-3:45-6:30-7-9:50
Wed-Thu 6:30-7-9:50
Il était une fois les boys (G) Fri-Sun
12:30-1:15-3:20-4-6:45-7:30-9:30-10
Mon 6:45-7:30-9:30-10 Tue 12:30-1:15-
3:20-4-6:45-7:30-9:30-10 Wed-Thu
6:45-7:30-9:30-10 Fri 11
Protection (13+) Fri-Sun 1:20-6:45 Mon
6:45 Tue 1:20-6:45 Wed-Thu 6:45
La reine des neiges (G) Fri-Sun 3:40
Tue 3:40
La reine des neiges 3D (G) Fri-Sun
1-7:10-9:35 Mon 7:10-9:35 Tue 1-7:10-
9:35 Wed-Thu 7:10-9:35
Thor: Un monde obscur 3D (G) Fri-Sun
12:20-3-6:40-9:10 Mon 6:40-9:10 Tue
12:20-3-6:40-9:10 Wed-Thu 6:40-9:10
La voleuse de livres (G) Fri-Sun
12:50-3:35-6:50-9:25 Mon 6:50-9:25
Tue 12:50-3:35-6:50-9:25 Wed-Thu
6:50-9:25

StarCité Hull 115 boul. du Plateau

The Book Thief (G) Fri-Sun 1-4-7-10
Mon 7-10 Tue 1-4-7-10 Wed-Thu 7-10
Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1:30
Boréal Express (G) Sat 11



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Le Démantèlement (G) Fri-Sun 11:35-2:10-4:45-7:20-9:55 Mon 7:20-9:55 Tue 11:35-2:10-4:45-7:20-9:55 Wed-Thu 7:20-9:55
Frozen (G) Fri-Sun 12:15-2:50-5:25-8-10:35 Mon 8-10:30 Tue 12:15-2:50-5:25-8-10:35 Wed-Thu 8-10:30
Le Hobbit: La désolation de Smaug 3D (STC) No Passes Thu 10
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (STC) No Passes Thu 10:10 No Passes Thu 10
Homefront (13+) Fri-Sun 1-3:25-5:50-8:15-10:40 Mon 8:05-10:30 Tue 1-3:25-5:50-8:15-10:40 Wed-Thu 8:05-10:30
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (G) Fri-Sun 12:15-12:30-3:30-3:45-6:45-7-10-15 Mon 6:30-6:45-9:45-10 Tue 12:15-12:30-3:30-3:45-6:45-7-10-15 Wed 6:30-6:45-9:45-10 Thu 6:15-6:30-9:30-9:45 Fri-Sun 1-4:15-7:30-10:45 Mon 7:15-10:30 Tue 1-4:15-7:30-10:45 Wed 7:15-10:30 Thu 7
Hunger Games: L'émbarquement (G) Fri-Sun 12:45-4-7:15-10:30 Mon 7-10:15 Tue 12:45-4-7:15-10:30 Wed 7-10:15 Thu 6:45-10
Il était une fois les boys (G) Fri-Sun 11:30-12-2:05-2:40-4:40-5:20-7:15-8-9:50-10:40 Mon 7:15-7:45-9:50-10:20 Tue 11:30-12-2:05-2:40-4:40-5:20-7:15-8-9:50-10:40 Wed-Thu 7:15-7:45-9:50-10:20 Thu 1
Last Vegas (G) Fri-Sun 3:05-5:35-10:35 Mon 10:30 Tue 3:05-5:35-10:35 Wed-Thu 10:30
The Metropolitan Opera: Tosca - Encore (STC) Sat 12:55
Oldboy (16+) Fri-Sun 12:35-8:05 Mon 8:05 Tue 12:35-8:05 Wed-Thu 8:05
Out of the Furnace (STC) Fri 11:20-2-4:50-7:45-10:40 Sat 2-4:50-7:45-10:40 Sun 11:20-2-4:50-7:45-10:40 Mon

7:45-10:30 Tue 11:20-2-4:50-7:45-10:40 Wed-Thu 7:45-10:30
The Polar Express (G) Sat 11
La reine des neiges (G) Fri-Sun 11:30-2:05-4:40-7:15 Mon 7:15 Tue 11:30-2:05-4:40-7:15 Wed-Thu 7:15
La reine des neiges 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12-2:35-5:10-7:45-10:20 Mon 7:45-10:20 Tue 12-2:35-5:10-7:45-10:20 Wed-Thu 7:45-10:20
Thor: The Dark World (G) Fri-Sun 12:10 Tue 12:10
Thor: The Dark World 3D (G) Fri-Sun 2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10 Mon 7:40-10:10 Tue 2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10 Wed 7:40-10:10 Thu 7:40
Thor: Un monde obscur (G) Fri 11:40 Sun 11:40 Tue 11:40
Thor: Un monde obscur 3D (G) Fri 2:10-4:40-7:10-9:40 Sat 5:15-7:45-10:15 Sun 2:10-4:40-7:10-9:40 Mon 7:10-9:40 Tue 2:10-4:40-7:10-9:40 Wed 7:10-9:40 Thu 7:10
Violette (STC) Fri-Thu 9:50

Barrhaven Cinemas 131 Riocan Dr.

Delivery Man (PG) Fri 7:30-10:10 Sat-Sun 11:40-2:10-4:50-7:30-10:10 Mon-Thu 5:10-7:40 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Frozen (G) Sat-Sun 12-2:35-5:15 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Frozen 3D (G) Fri 7:20-9:55 Sat-Sun 11:30-2:05-4:45-7:20-9:55 Mon-Wed 5:15-7:45 Thu 4:45-7:15
Gravity 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 7:45-10 Mon-Thu 5:20-7:35
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (STC) No Passes Thu 10
Homefront (14A) Fri 7:50-10:25 Sat-Sun 12:10-2:40-5:15-7:50-10:25 Mon-Thu 5:15-7:50

The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 6:15-7-9:30-10:15 Sat-Sun 11:30-12:30-2:45-3:45-6:15-7-9:30-10:15 Mon-Thu 4:45-7-8
The Polar Express (G) Sat 11
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Sat-Sun 1:50
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri 7:10-9:50 Sat-Sun 4:30-7:10-9:50 Mon-Thu 5-7:50 0

SilverCity, 2385 City Park Dr.

12 Years a Slave (14A) Fri-Thu 12:55-4:05-7:20-10:30
About Time (14A) Fri-Thu 9:20
The Book Thief (PG) Fri-Tue 12:50-3:55-7:05-10:10 Wed 3:55-7:05-10:10 Thu 12:50-3:55-7:05-10:10 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Delivery Man (PG) Fri-Sun 11:50-2:25-5:05-7:45-10:25 Mon 2:25-5:05-7:45-10:25 Tue 11:50-2:25-5:05-7:45-10:25 Wed-Thu 2:25-5:05-7:45-10:25 Die Hard (14A) Wed 9:30
Ender's Game (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-6:50 Frozen (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-4-6:40
Frozen 3D (G) Fri 11:55-2:35-5:15-7:55-10:35 Sat 11-11:55-2:35-5:15-7:55-10:35 Sun 11:55-2:35-5:15-7:55-10:35 Mon 2:35-5:15-7:55-10:35 Tue 11:55-2:35-5:15-7:55-10:35 Wed-Thu 2:35-5:15-7:55-10:35
Gravity 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 12:25-2:50-5:10-7:40-10:05
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (STC) No Passes Thu 10-10:15
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug: An IMAX 3D Experience (STC) No Passes Thu 10:30
Holiday Inn (STC) Sun 12:45
Homefront (14A) Fri-Thu 12:35-3:10-5:45-8:20-10:50
The Hunger Games: Catching

Fire (PG) Fri 12-12:30-2:05-3:15-3:45-5:25-6:30-7-8:45-9:45-10:15 Sat-Sun 12-12:30-3:15-3:45-5:25-6:30-7-8:45-9:45-10:15 Mon 3:15 Tue 12-12:30-2:05-3:15-3:45-5:25-6:30-7-8:45-9:45-10:15 Wed 12:30-2:05-3:15-3:45-5:25-6:30-7-9:45-10:15 Thu 2:05-5:25 Mon 12:30-2:05-3:45-5:25-7-8:45-10:15 Thu 12:30-3:15-3:45-7-9:45-10:15
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire — The IMAX Experience (PG) Fri-Wed 1-4:15-7:30-10:45 Thu 1-4:15-7:20
Last Vegas (PG) Fri-Thu 4:10-9:40
The Metropolitan Opera: Tosca - Encore (STC) Sat 12
Oldboy (18A) Fri-Sun 12:20-3-5:30-8:05-10:40 Mon 1:55-4:30-10:10 Tue 12:20-3-5:30-8:05-10:40 Wed 3-5:30-8:05-10:40 Thu 1:55-4:30-7:25
Out of the Furnace (14A) Fri-Tue 1:30-4:20-7:10-10 Wed 4:20-7:10-10 Thu 1:30-4:20-7:10-10:50 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Philomena (PG) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:40-5:20-7:50-10:20 Mon 2:40-5:20-7:50-10:20 Tue 12:10-2:40-5:20-7:50-10:20 Wed-Thu 2:40-5:20-7:50-10:20
The Polar Express (G) Sat 11
Puella Magi Madoka Magica the Movie: Rebellion (PG) Mon 7:30
Royal Opera House: The Nutcracker (STC) Thu 7:30
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Fri-Thu 1:35
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri-Wed 4:25-7:15-9:55 Thu 4:25-9:55

Landmark Theatres Orleans 6 Cinemas 3752 Innes Rd.

About Time (14A) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Sun 9:15 Digital,

Dolby Stereo Digital Mon 9:10 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Tue 9:15 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Wed-Thu 9:10
The Book Thief (PG) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 3:15-6:20-9:20 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 12:10-3:15-6:20-9:20 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon 6:10-9:20 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Tue 12:10-3:15-6:20-9:20 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Wed-Thu 6:10-9:20
Delivery Man (PG) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 3:45-7:20-10:15 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 1:10-3:45-7:20-10:15 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon 6:50-9:40 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Tue 3:45-7:20-10:15 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Wed-Thu 6:50-9:40
Frozen (G) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri 3:10-6:15 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Sat-Sun 12-3-6:15 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Mon 6:15 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Tue 12-3-6:15 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Wed-Thu 6:15
Frozen 3D (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri 4-7-10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Sat-Sun 1-4-7-10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Mon 6:45-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Tue 1-4-7-10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Wed 6:45-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Thu 6:45
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Thu 10:15
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Thu 10
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Stereo Digital Fri 3:20-6:45-9:45 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 12:15-3:20-6:45-9:45 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon 6:20-9:25 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Tue 12:15-3:20-6:45-9:45 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital Wed-Thu 6:20-9:25
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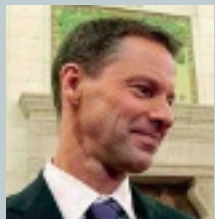
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All hail the chief (of staff)

The chief of staff to a top politician is not usually the one in the spotlight. Generally, they prefer to pull the levers of power anonymously from the corridors and meeting rooms while press secretaries face the media. But with the Senate scandal, Nigel Wright has become something of a household name. In Hollywood, chiefs of staff are also having a moment thanks to shows such as *Scandal* and *Veep*. Here's how Wright measures up against his fictionalized counterparts.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Nigel Wright

Job: Chief of staff to Stephen Harper
Age: 50
Marital Status: Single
Background: Lawyer, then made millions as a Bay Street businessman.
Style: Calm, cool and collected. Described by friends as having high ethical standards despite current allegations of fraud, breach of trust and bribery for covering Sen. Mike Duffy's contested expenses.
General health: Marathon runner; gets up before dawn to exercise.
Quote: "My intention was always to secure repayment of funds owed to taxpayers. I acted within the scope of my duties and remain confident that my actions were lawful."



Cyrus Beene (Scandal)

Job: Chief of staff to U.S. President Fitzgerald Grant
Age: 50s
Marital Status: Married to White House reporter James Novak, with whom he has an adopted daughter.
Background: Campaign guru and political fixer. Once offered chance to run Harvard University.
Style: Ruthless, seemingly lacking in all scruples or limits. Helped rig an election; put a hit out on his own boyfriend; hired a hit man to kill a woman who had a fling with the president.
General health: Poor. Has been hospitalized for a heart attack.
Quote: "The nitty-gritty, morally bankrupt, back-alley-brawling rest of the game, that's me...."



Linda Vasquez (House of Cards)

Job: Chief of staff to U.S. President Garrett Walker
Age: Late 40s/early 50s
Marital Status: Unclear; has a college-age son, Ruben.
Background: A key player in Walker's campaign.
Style: "She's as tough as a two-dollar steak," as well as loyal and devoted to party ideals. But her weakness is Ruben.
General health: Trim, but you get the sense her chief exercise is marathon Black-Berry clicking.
Quote: "Now we have to lead. And that means making tough choices."



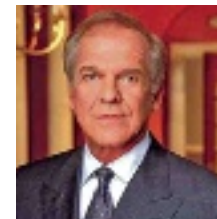
Eli Gold (The Good Wife)

Job: Chief of staff to Illinois Governor Peter Florrick
Age: Late 40s/early 50s
Marital Status: Divorced; has a daughter.
Background: Political consultant, concert pianist.
Style: Smooth, cunning, passionate. Investigated by the Department of Justice for vote buying. Deleted a critical voice mail sent to his boss' estranged wife by her love interest.
General health: Fit, but high-strung and emotionally repressed.
Quote: "I don't have many enemies in life — I get along with Republicans, Protestants, Catholics, even a few reporters. But the one thing I hate is amateurs."



Amy Brookheimer (Veep)

Job: Chief of staff to Vice President Selina Meyer
Age: 30s
Marital Status: Single
Background: Capitol Hill staffer
Style: Generally even keeled, but with flashes of insecurity and frustration. Has mastered the art of managing a difficult, often irrational boss with a smile.
General health: Generally stressed out, poor sleeping habits, potty mouth.
Quote: "No, she cannot fall asleep on live TV. Not on C-Span. The irony would be too huge."




Leo McGarry (The West Wing)

Job: Chief of staff to President Josiah Bartlet
Age: 55 when he began the job
Marital Status: Divorced; has a daughter.
Background: Former air force pilot and labour secretary; made his millions in defence industry.
Style: Generally calm and loyal, not a yes man, won't suffer fools. Excellent reputation.
General health: Recovering alcoholic and barbiturates addict, workaholic. Died of massive heart attack (following the real-life death of actor John Spencer, who played McGarry).


NIGEL WRIGHT PHOTO, THE CANADIAN PRESS; ALL OTHER PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Prepping for an old-school crime spree



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Miniseries. The cast of *Bonnie & Clyde* immersed themselves in their stories and each other's company

PAT HEALY
Metro World News

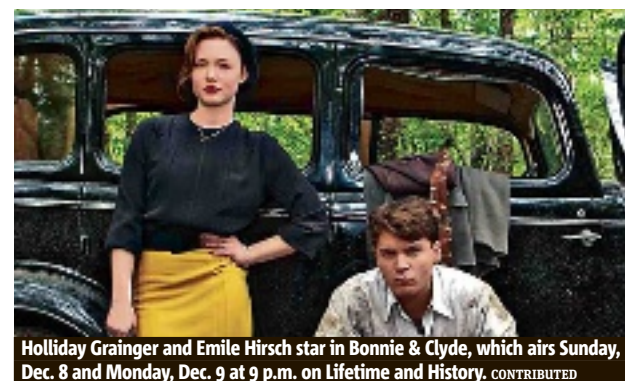
Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow began a two-year crime spree in 1932 that could never happen in 2013.

Sure, the fame-hungry robbers would be all over the Internet, posting selfies of Bonnie holding a pistol and chomping on a cigar on Instagram, but even if they were able to draw millions of followers on Twitter and maintain the public's interest for that amount of time,

they couldn't have dodged the cops for that long.

"You couldn't have it (happen) now because there would be an amber alert like 12 minutes later," says Lane Garrison, who plays Clyde's brother Buck on the two-night miniseries *Bonnie & Clyde*.

The concept of people being products of their times was very much present in the minds of the *Bonnie & Clyde* cast, which also includes Holliday Grainger and Emile Hirsch in the respective title roles, William Hurt as the Texas Ranger who hunts them down and Sarah Hyland (Haley from *Modern Family*) as Buck's wife. Garrison says they all read Jeff Guinn's book *Go Down Together: The True, Untold Story of Bonnie & Clyde* before coming onto the set.



Holliday Grainger and Emile Hirsch star in *Bonnie & Clyde*, which airs Sunday, Dec. 8 and Monday, Dec. 9 at 9 p.m. on Lifetime and History. CONTRIBUTED

"This was a young man dealing in the middle of the Depression era and they didn't have anything," says Garrison, who grew up in Dallas, where the gangsters are originally from. "They had no money and Buck lacked an education, so of

course he took to a life of crime. For me, stepping into that character, it was really about understanding what motivated him and that was family, first and foremost." To get that family feel, he and Hirsch also spent a good deal of time bro-ing out.

David Foster looks to round out trophy case

Canadian talent.

Grammy-winning producer wants to secure a Tony Award and an Oscar to complete his set

Though he's famous for his sweepingly grand adult pop productions, David Foster in person can be punk-rock blunt.

Take, for example, the answer issued by the decorated Canadian producer — who has earned 16 Grammy Awards, five Junos, an Emmy, a Golden Globe and three Academy Award nominations — when asked why he decided to pen the music for an as-yet un-produced musical based on Depression-era cartoon sex symbol Betty Boop.

"I want to win a Tony. It's just plain and simple," Foster said in an interview in Toronto on Wednesday, wearing a wry smile. "What better shot than with an icon like Betty Boop? She's iconic and everybody knows who she is, which gives you kind of a leg

Aspirations

"I've been nominated for three Oscars and never won. I want an Oscar and a Tony and then I'll have the complete (set)."

David Foster
Talking about career goals

up, I think.

"And yeah, I want a Tony. I've been nominated for three Oscars and never won. I want an Oscar and a Tony and then I'll have the complete (set)," he adds, recapping the other major awards he's secured. "I want those two. That's drive enough for me."

The Victoria native says he wrote 24 songs after being contacted by Bill Haber, the Broadway producer whose credits include *War Horse*, *August: Osage County* and *Spamalot*.

But the production is being held up for now by the book, reportedly being handled by Oscar Williams and Sally Robinson.

"We just can't get the book

right," said Foster, who added that he would be involved in casting should the production ever get to that stage.

"I'm not talking out of school here, they've admitted that the music is ahead of the book. So I think I've done a really good job of writing some great songs and the book needs to equal the music now. And until it does, they will not go forward with

it."

While he awaits progress on that production, it's not as though Foster is lacking for work.

Roughly two years ago, the 64-year-old took over as chairman of Verve Music Group, a jazz imprint whose sprawling roster now includes Stevie Wonder, Diana Krall, Bryan Adams, Sarah McLachlan, Paul Anka, Rod Stewart, Elvis

Costello and Mary J. Blige, whose recent holiday record, *A Mary Christmas*, was helmed by Foster.

"Like everything else I do, I'm going to throw my body and soul into it and see if I can be a good record chairman," he said. "We've also signed a lot of unknown singers. I'm sure we'll fail a lot because that's the nature of the business — you sign 12

artists, one hits, you feel very blessed.

"I don't want to have that horrible a track record but I'm sure we'll sign six artists, one will hopefully hit and five won't. That's kind of the nature of the beast. But I'm enthused about it.... I want to be good at it. I hate being bad at things. And I hate failure.... I don't want to lose at this."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Grammy-winning Canadian producer David Foster.
CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Christmas songs

This is Foster's time of year for music.

- **Hit albums.** He has helmed hit Christmas albums for Michael Bublé,

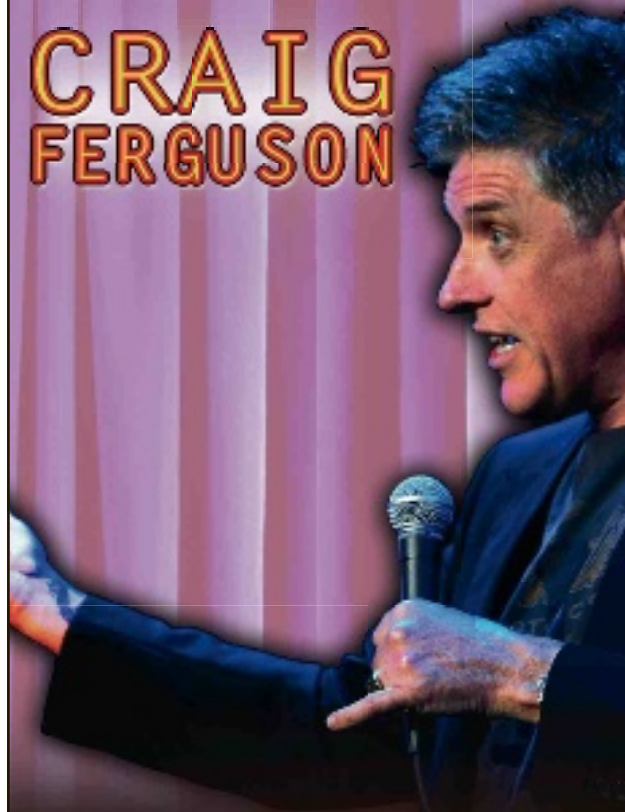
Josh Groban, Rod Stewart, Andrea Bocelli and Celine Dion, and concedes it can be a challenge finding new ways to interpret such well-worn classics.

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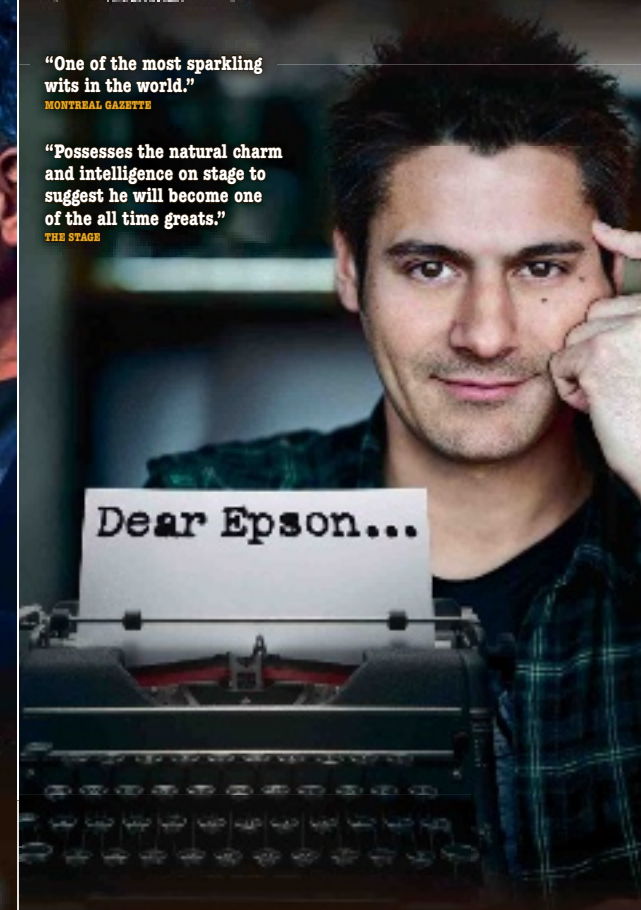
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5 things to look for as Grammy nominations approach

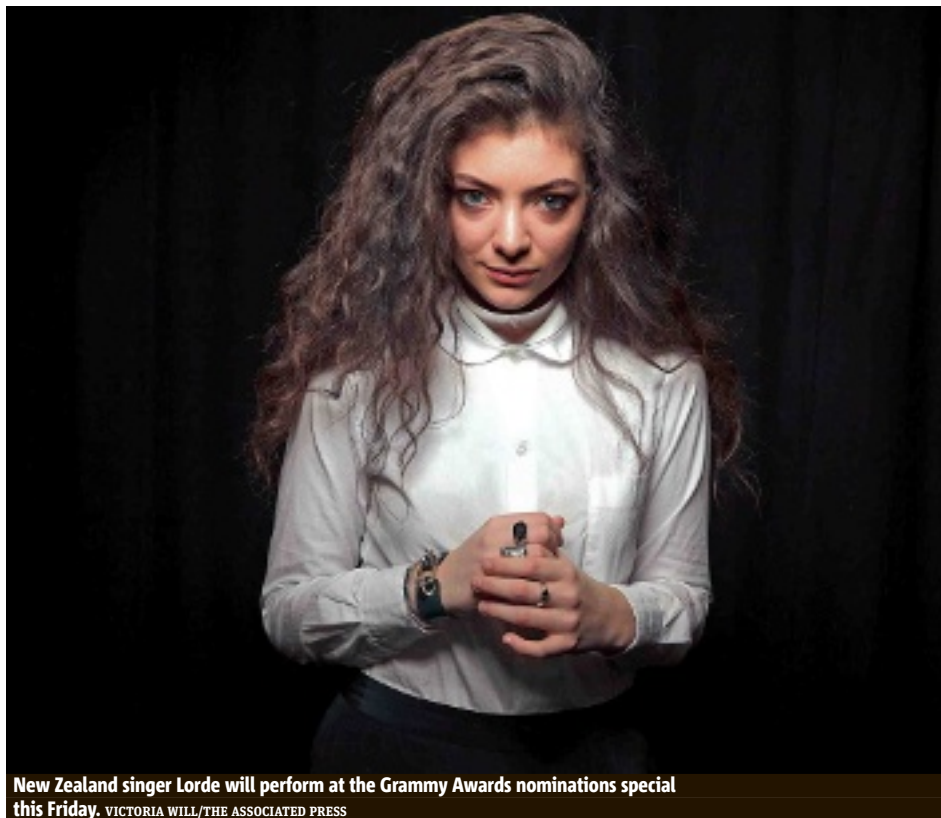
This is a great year to be a Grammy Awards prognosticator. There's been a lot of excellent music, but there are clear favourites as The Recording Academy prepares to unveil nominees Friday (a handful will be unveiled during a CBS special and the rest announced after it airs). The trends are pretty easy to define.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fresh faces

Newcomers

Besides Lorde, Florida Georgia Line are strong contenders to be nominated for best new artist thanks to the success of Cruise, with Nelly. There could be two rap contenders: Macklemore & Ryan Lewis and Kendrick Lamar, the platinum-selling critical darling of the rap world.



New Zealand singer Lorde will perform at the Grammy Awards nominations special this Friday. VICTORIA WILL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Big winners

Homecoming dance

Remember how it felt in high school when you just knew who would be elected homecoming king and queen long before the big dance? The Grammy nominations have that feel with Taylor Swift and Justin Timberlake a virtual lock to be two of the night's most popular picks, and probably top nominees.

White boy rap

Unlikely rap stars

Seattle-based Macklemore & Ryan Lewis have been the rap sensations of the pop world this year with hits like the quirky Thrift Shop and the same-sex acceptance song Same Love. They are strong contenders for record and song of the year, but will they dominate in rap categories alongside Drake?

Royal-ty

Breakout star

We offer up Lorde as this year's other likely multiple nominee. The 17-year-old from New Zealand stood in stark opposition to the swag-flavoured atmosphere of this year's singles market, offering up Royals. The song is a catchy refutation of popular culture that became something of an anthem for the dispossessed.

All Pharrell, all the time

The singles

Two of the contenders for record and song of the year share a common denominator: Pharrell Williams. He helped Robin Thicke make Blurred Lines an inescapable part of 2013 and took a starring turn on Daft Punk's mind candy Get Lucky. Will he end up competing against himself?

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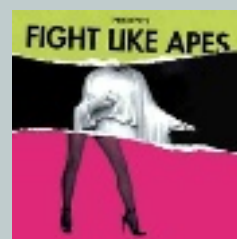
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Music the world over



SOUND CHECK
Alan Cross
scene@metronews.ca

A world tour this week: Ireland, the Horn of Africa and Detroit.



Carousel/Fight Like Apes

This Dublin band is fronted by singer MayKay, who might be quite insane. In this case, that's good. Don't let the cheery melody distract you from the lyrics.



Hadnetna/Yohannes "Wedi" Tikabo

Hailed by some as "the Bob Marley of Eritrea," this song that seems to criticize the regime of President Isaias Afewerki. You just don't do that. Ex-pats are smuggling the song into the country to rally the masses.



Rap God/Eminem

Em's latest video resurrects Max Headroom, the stuttering virtual talk show host from the '80s. Good to see him back. Max, I mean.

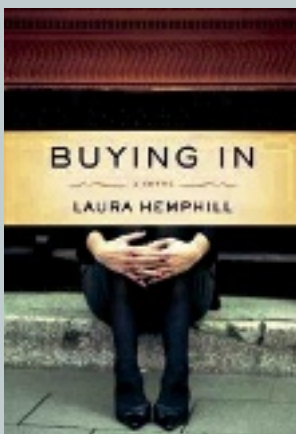
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Contenders for your next favourite read

EMILY LAURENCE
Metro World News In New York City

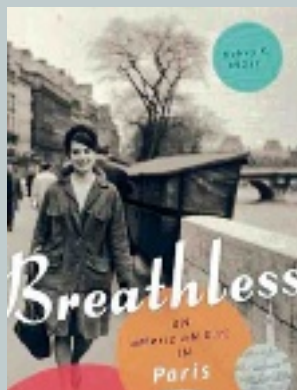
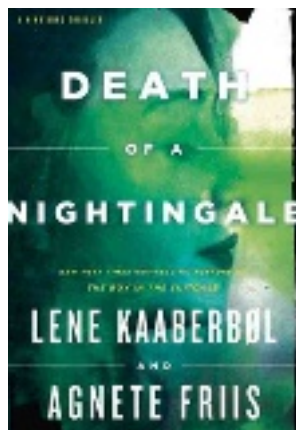
Buying In by Laura Hemphill

Fiction. Former Wall Street financier Laura Hemphill pens a riveting novel about what it takes to make it in the world of finance, particularly as a young woman competing with the boys. Fresh out of college, Sophie lands a job as a Wall Street analyst. She's thrilled to break away from her small town and will do whatever it takes to succeed — even when it means never seeing her boyfriend, missing Thanksgiving with her family and not having time to make any new New York friends. Though the characters in the book are fictional, Hemphill bases the story on the very real expectations she faced in the high-stakes world of finance.



Death of a Nightingale by Lene Kaaberbol and Agnete Friis

Crime fiction. Best-selling Danish duo Kaaberbol and Friis are back with an action-packed thriller about a rescue worker trying to get to the bottom of a complicated murder case. Natasha is charged with killing her fiancé, but escapes custody. Natasha's first husband was also murdered and now, after this second murder, someone tries to kidnap her eight-year-old daughter. Natasha flees to a crisis centre, where she gets to know a Red Cross nurse named Nina. Nina is on a mission to discover the truth. Is the woman she is helping, and her new friend, a cold-blooded killer? It's a mystery that will keep you turning the pages.



Breathless: An American Girl in Paris by Nancy K. Miller

Memoir. If you come from a town where everyone settles down early and you're off chasing big city dreams, you'll definitely be able to relate to Nancy Miller. Nancy grew up as an average middle-class American, but she did something no one she knew dared to do: move to Paris after she graduated college in 1961. It's there that she really comes of age, taking advantage of every adventure that presents itself. Nancy falls in love with another American expatriate, who promises her an exciting life of luxury. But shortly after they get married, she discovers he is lying about who he really is and she has to move back to America, heartbroken.

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Our fascination with fantasy sports is Berry real and growing



Matthew Berry has written a book about fantasy sports. ESPN

New book. Guru on this going craze Matthew Berry says that experiencing fantasy sports is like 'going to your first Bruce Springsteen' gig

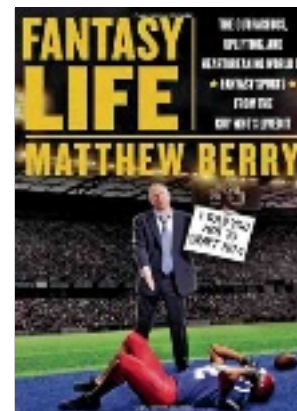
JONATHAN DONALDSON
Metro World News in NYC

At first glance, America's growing interest in fantasy sports may just seem like an expansion of what it means to be a fan.

If cheering for your favorite team and watching your favorite highlight programs isn't enough to sate your fandom, you can join any one of millions of online fantasy leagues, where you can draft your favourite players in the league and make their triumphs (and failures) count for you.

But according to fantasy-guru Matthew Berry's new book *Fantasy Life: The Outrageous, Uplifting, and Heartbreaking World of Fantasy Sports* from the Guy Who's Lived It, it's not just "geeks in black shirts in their mom's basement" playing in fantasy sports leagues anymore — it's 13 per cent of the American population and growing. To what does he attribute this increasing fascination? "Ultimately it's about fun and friendship," says the ESPN senior fantasy sports analyst (he would know — the 43-year-old is still playing in the same league he joined as a teenager). Moreover, he says it's something that has to be experienced to be truly understood.

"It's like going to your first Bruce Springsteen concert. You can be a Springsteen fan and love his albums, but it's not



until you've seen him up on stage, absolutely pouring his heart out for four hours, that you can truly understand how awesome he is." That's pretty high praise for online fantasy sports, but Berry's book makes a compelling case for the new American pastime's most dedicated believers.

"The craziest story I know is about this one soldier who was in Afghanistan on his fantasy draft day," says Berry. "There was only one place outside where he could get a connection, and a bomb went off 60 yards from where he was standing." Luckily, the soldier was unharmed, but the story highlights how a true fantasy obsessive will never miss their draft day — even by peril of death.

With obsession also comes dedication. Berry knows of a tattoo league, where the losers have to get a humiliating tattoo of his league's choice. Even Berry can't abide that one. ("Imagine a Justin Bieber tattoo on a grown-man," he muses, with a shiver.) For most of us, the stakes are never as high as death or Bieber, but Berry promises that there's plenty of fun to be had.

Berry says that ESPN is always trying to figure out ways to grow the fantasy industry, from including fantasy segments in "real" sports programs to making sure that web and mobile applications are easy to use, and appeal to everyone. And it's not just sports like football that define the world of fantasy. "You can play fantasy anything," says Berry. "There are fantasy movie leagues where people win points depending on how successful the movies are. In Japan, fantasy sumo is huge. Any place where people can complete, there is an opportunity for fantasy."

So, what's next? Fantasy lay-offs? Fantasy obituaries? Only time will tell.

Video Game Review

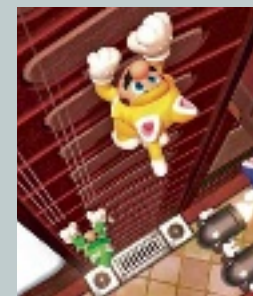
Super Mario 3D World

Console. Wii

Rated. Universal

• • • • •

It's more than a costume. When Mario slips into his Cat Suit, he's a kitty from tail to mustache. It's the way he sits with curiosity, bats his paws and scampers after rabbits. This is the plumber's most irresistible adventure, a mix of 3D castle puzzles, thrill rides, and hidden secrets. Some are revealed by blowing on your controller, others are found with friends. A creative mix of pneumatic tubes, haunted shadows, and dazzling visual effects place this among the year's best. **KRIS ABEL**



New arc for series

Iron Man's magical new enemies

As if mythical Dark Elves from Svartalfheim weren't enough of a test for Tony Stark, the armour-clad Avenger now has to match wits with the now-dead Mandarin's fabled rings of power. The new arc for Marvel's ongoing Iron Man series starts in March with issue No. 23 and, said writer Kieron Gillen, the five-part story drawn by Luke Ross, melds a culture clash pitting magic, modern technology and fairy-inspired legend and lore. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY
JOEL & ETHAN COEN

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Tom Daley

Diving into love: Gushing Daley unable to get boyfriend out of his head

Tom Daley is more than happy to gush about boyfriend Dustin Lance Black — though he doesn't mention him by name — now that he's opened up about dating a man. "We were at a party and I hadn't even spoken to him all night. I didn't know what to do or if he was gay at first," Daley tells Jonathan Ross during an interview. "I typed 'call me' in his notes with a smiley face on his phone and the

next day he texted. He makes me feel safe and happy. Right now I couldn't be happier." And it seems things are pretty serious between the two. "I'd never felt the feeling of love. It happened so quickly," Daley says. "I was completely overwhelmed by it to the point I can't get him out of my head all the time. I've never had it before where I love someone and they love me just as much."



Cynthia Nixon ALL IMAGES GETTY

Charlotte will try to twist Miranda's arm to complete Sex and the City trilogy

While Cynthia Nixon may have shot down the idea of a third Sex and the City film, co-star Kristin Davis is still holding out hope. "I'm going to have a little talk with Cynthia the next time I see her," Davis tells Haute Living

magazine. "I don't think (a third film) is a pipe dream. There is a discussion. People talk about it amongst the people who are the players, but I don't know if it will come together. It would be very exciting if it did."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Paltrow's festive Kors collection too rich for most people's blood

TINA CHADHA
Metro World News

Last month, we found out that Gwyneth Paltrow and Michael Kors would create a special holiday collection for Goop, Paltrow's lifestyle site. Well, that day has come, people. The line — which consists of

some of the Oscar-winner's favourite Kors pieces, but updated — debuts on the site Thursday and includes a high-end suede tote, an oversized gold watch, leather smoking slippers, a cashmere cape, a grey structured peplum sweater and a military-inspired wool coat. But like the clothes you imagine Gwyneth creating her organic meals in, these threads veer on the luxe side. The items range in price from \$145 for a bracelet to \$2,595 for the cosy cape. Something a bit more universal: Kors' grandmother's recipe for easy-to-make butter cookies.



Amanda Bynes

Free woman Bynes 'feeling better every day'

Amanda Bynes is a free woman once more. The troubled actress has completed her in-patient treatment and is at her family's home for the holidays, according to People magazine. "She's feeling better every day," her mother's attorney, Tamar

Arminak, tells the magazine. "Despite the fact Amanda is no longer in a facility, her outpatient treatment is continuing. She's very happy to reestablish the loving relationship with her family that she once shared." Bynes' next court date is set for Jan. 7.



Britney Spears

Hey critics! Don't you dare burst Britney's bubble

The reviews for Britney Spears' new album, Britney Jean, have been pretty terrible — but Spears herself has no idea. "Britney's manager, Larry Rudolph, and her father, Jamie, won't allow her to see any of the bad reviews," a source tells Radar Online. "Britney doesn't even have access to the Internet and lives in a bubble."

Her team will allow her to believe that the album is being well-received. No one wants to upset Britney. If she were to read anything negative, it could send her into a bad tailspin, and both Larry and Jamie know that can't happen with her upcoming shows in Vegas about to launch."

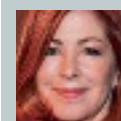


Twitter



@kirstiealley

oh lord how I love to make people laugh ..and vice versa ! We all need somethin to make us float off to happy land...and Sitcom is Drug free



@DanaDelany

Just opened a jar of honey vintage 1996. Did you know it's the only food that doesn't spoil? Besides Twinkies, of course.

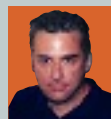


@JasonAlexander

My kid kneed me in the nuts 2nite. It was in the guise of a self defense demo but I frankly think he just flat out kneed me in the nuts.

Liquid Assets

Liqueur in the spotlight



LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

The term liqueur covers a lot of ground — from decadent, cream-based combinations, all the way to secret blends of herbs and spices. Most have a life outside of the holiday season, but I bet that for the majority of you buying a bottle in December is your yearly liqueur fix.

There's something sad about that. The liqueur market has never been more vibrant, venturing into packaging and flavour innovation territory any other booze category would fear to tread.

Not that the old standbys are resting on their liquid laurels. Bailey's (the Irish king of Christmas drinking) has introduced new flavoured family members and even Grand Marnier has dipped its cap in the pool of fruity expression, creating a special series of alternative versions.

Never to be outdone, Mexico's Kahlúa Limited Edition Gingerbread Liqueur (375 ml, \$15.49 - \$16.99) starts with the classic mix of rum and Arabica coffee and then adds gingerbread, nutmeg, cinnamon and clove. It results in a seasonal treat that's great over ice or as fuel in your favourite cup of joe. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**



Gingerbread graduates to a grown-up torte

Almond-Chocolate Gingerbread Torte.

This decadent treat features the quintessential holiday flavour with chocolate and almonds

1. Heat oven to 180 C (350 F). Coat two 23-cm (9-inch) round layer cake pans with vegetable spray.

2. In a mixer bowl, beat butter until fluffy. Beat in

Ingredients

Chocolate Ganache Glaze

- 90 ml (6 tbsp) whipping cream
- 22 ml (1 1/2 tbsp) light corn syrup
- 250 ml (1 cup) semi-sweet chocolate chips

Cake

- 125 ml (1/2 cup) butter, softened
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) sugar
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) molasses
- 2 eggs
- 5 ml (1 tsp) vanilla
- 300 ml (1 1/4 cups) all-purpose flour
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) unsweetened cocoa powder
- 10 ml (2 tsp) ground ginger
- 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) cinnamon
- 5 ml (1 tsp) baking powder
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) allspice
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) buttermilk
- 150 ml (2/3 cup) toasted slivered almonds, divided
- Chocolate Ganache Glaze
- 75 to 125 ml (1/3 to 1/2 cup) apricot or peach preserves



This recipe serves 12. THE CANADIAN PRESS

sugar, then molasses to blend thoroughly. Beat in eggs, one at a time. Beat in vanilla.

3. In another bowl, sift dry ingredients together. Beat into butter mixture just to blend. Mix in buttermilk. Coarsely chop 75 ml (1/3 cup) of the almonds; mix into batter. Pour into prepared pans, dividing equally and smoothing tops. Bake in centre of oven for about 15

minutes, just until springy to the touch. Let cool in pans on racks for 5 minutes, then turn out onto racks to cool completely.

4. Meanwhile, prepare glaze. In a small saucepan over medium heat, bring whipping cream and corn syrup to a boil. Remove from heat and mix in chocolate chips until smooth. Let cool until mixture is thick

enough to spread on cake. Set aside.

5. Place one cake layer on a serving plate; cover with preserves and drizzle with glaze. Top with remaining cake layer. Spread glaze evenly over top and sides of torte. Garnish with remaining almonds. Let glaze set for at least 1 hour before serving. **THE CANADIAN PRESS/ ALMOND BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**

Holiday's fave little men star in pie



Gingerbread men add a whimsical touch. NEWS CANADA

1. Preheat oven to 375 F (190 C). Bake one pie shell according to package directions. Remove second pie shell from foil pan and place on a lightly floured work surface. Using a 2-inch (5 cm) gingerbread man-shaped cookie cutter, cut 8-10 pieces and place on a parchment paper-lined baking sheet. Brush lightly with egg and bake 10 minutes or until golden brown. Remove from oven and cool.

2. Heat butter and brown sugar in saucepan over medium heat, stirring until bubbly. Whisk in

cream and molasses and stir until it begins to simmer.

3. Whisk egg yolks, cornstarch, spices, salt and milk in bowl. Slowly add small amount of hot mixture into egg mixture, stirring constantly. Add egg mixture back into hot cream mixture and continue to stir over medium heat until thickened and just starting to boil.

4. Pour filling into baked pie shell. Cover surface with plastic wrap directly on filling and chill until set, four hours.

Ingredients

- 2 Tenderflake frozen deep dish pie shells, defrosted
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 3/4 cup (150 ml) unsalted butter
- 3/4 cup (150 ml) brown sugar
- 3/4 cup (150 ml) whipping cream
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) molasses
- 3 egg yolks
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) cornstarch
- 1 tsp (5 ml) ginger
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) nutmeg and cloves
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt
- 1 1/4 cup (300 ml) milk
- White icing
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) whipped topping

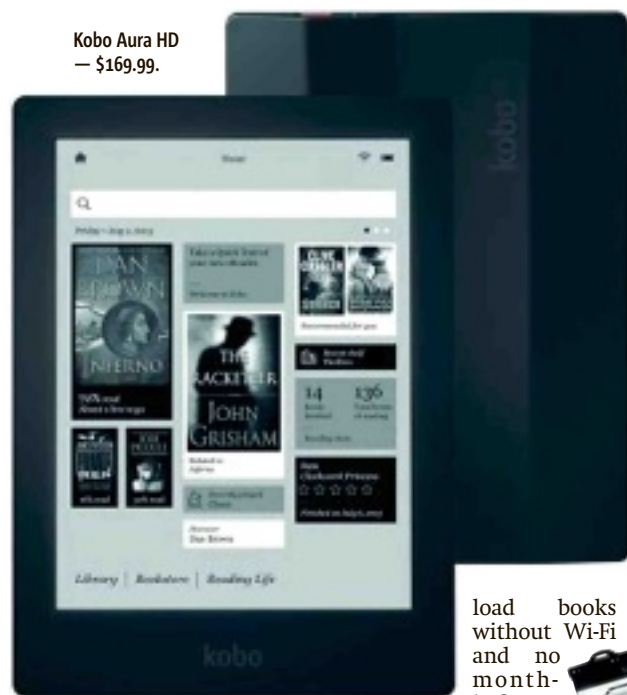
5. Decorate the gingerbread man pastry shapes with white icing. Arrange on top with

whipped topping before serving.

NEWS CANADA/ TENDERFLAKE



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MIKE
YAWNEY
For Metro

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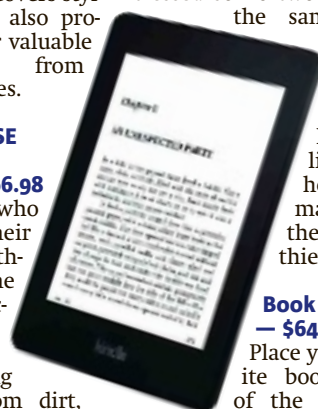
Kindle Paperwhite — \$139 and up

Amazon's popular eReader has undergone an upgrade, just in time for Christmas. The latest model features a faster processor, higher contrast screen, and a next-gen lighting system that is brighter and more uniform than before. For those who read on the go, splurge for the 3G model, which lets you down-



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Festive flicks to enjoy with the family



MICHELLE WILLIAMS
For Metro

It's time to settle in with the family for a night of holiday fun watching your favourite festive videos.

Metro asked Dave Bullard, purchasing manager for Movie Experts Inc. in Toronto, to choose some popular movie titles for the holiday season.

Home Alone (1990)

Starring Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci, and Daniel Stern. An eight-year-old boy, accidentally left behind by his family, must defend his home against idiotic burglars.



Mischievous, almost cartoonish, fun for all ages. Don't miss John Candy as Gus Polinski, polka king of the Midwest.

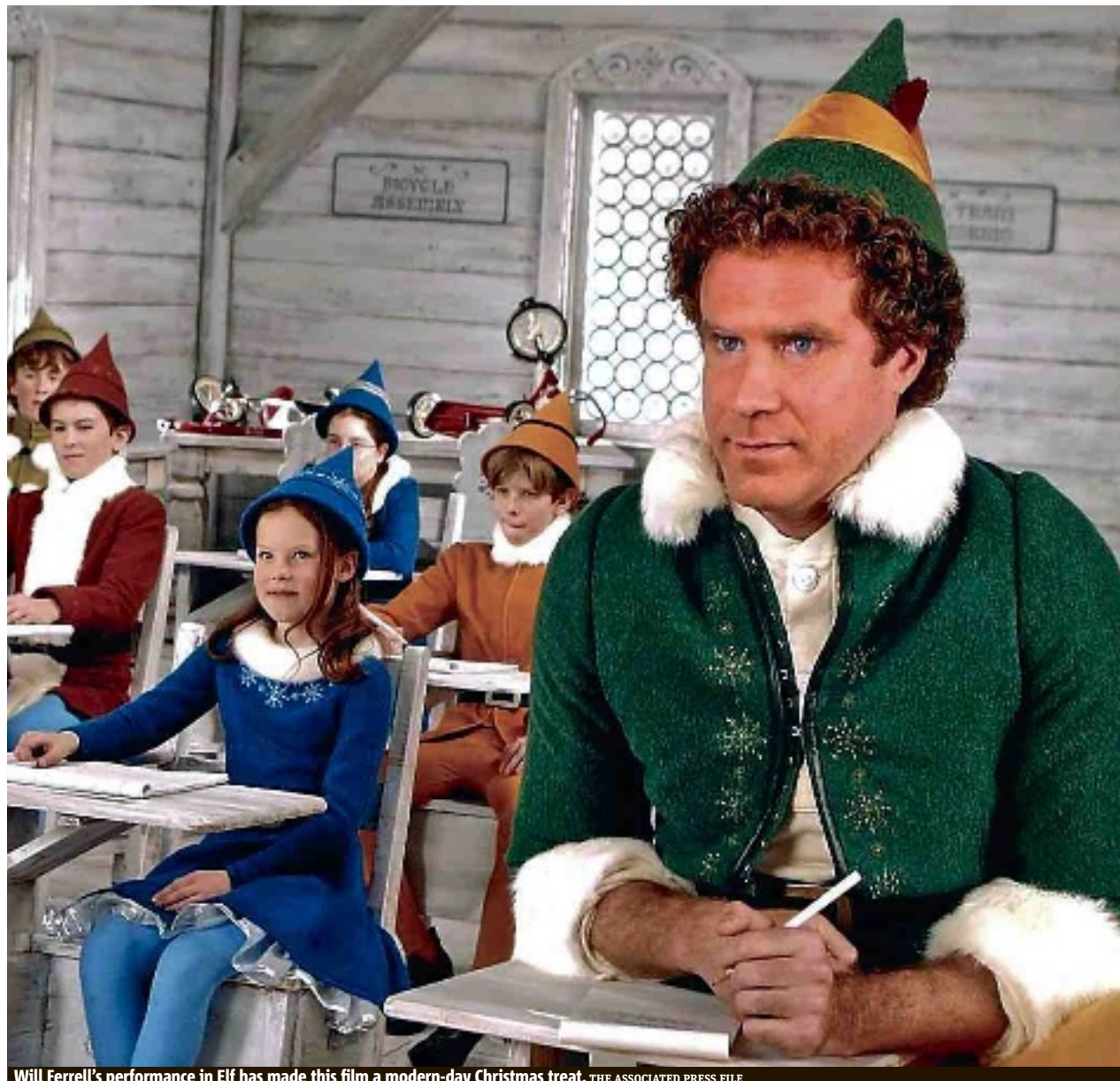
Elf (2003)

Starring Will Ferrell, James Caan, and Bob Newhart. The story of a young child who was adopted by Christmas elves, then returns to the human world to find his father and his true identity. Ferrell's performance as an oversized elf has made this film a modern-day Christmas treat.



A Christmas Story (1983)

Starring Peter Billingsley, Darren McGavin, and Melinda Dillon. A boy's yearning to get a Red Ryder



Will Ferrell's performance in *Elf* has made this film a modern-day Christmas treat. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

BB gun for Christmas and all the trials and tribulations that go into getting one. The film just has so many memorable movie moments, like the tongue stuck on the pole,

that are hard to forget.

National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989)

Starring Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo, and Juliette

Lewis. The Griswold family gathers for Christmas where nothing seems to go right. Shocking at times and quite hilarious, it's a Christmas movie that has become regu-

lar holiday viewing for many.

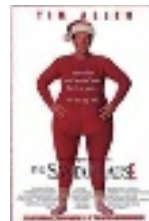
The Santa Clause (1994)

Starring Tim Allen, Judge Reinhold, and Wendy Crewson. A divorced father acci-

dentally kills Santa Clause and, in doing so, assumes the mantle of being jolly old St. Nick. Allen shines as a reluctant Santa Clause, so much so that it spawned two sequels.

Scrooged (1988)

Starring Bill Murray, Karen Allen, and John Forsythe. An updated take on the classic *A Christmas Story*, with Murray taking on the role of a wicked man with little time left to change his ways. A fresh take on a holiday classic with loads of cameo appearances.



Scoot & Kassie's Christmas Adventure (2013)

Starring Luke Perry, Ariana Bagley, and Taylor Negron. New this holiday season, Kassie and her friends have organized a charity concert for less-fortunate kids, but when two crooks steal the cash, Kassie's pet dog Scoot (a former police dog) leads an unlikely group of heroes to catch the bad guys and save Christmas. A heartwarming charmer that will have the whole family cheering.



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Pick a Christmas tree that makes the cut

Choices. Firs have taken over from pine trees when it comes to real trees in the home



MICHELLE WILLIAMS
For Metro

All Christmas trees are beautiful — even Charlie Brown's scrawny little twig was a winner once it was all jacked up with decorations.

But if you are a bit fussier, here is a list of some of the most popular trees with the help of Arthur Loewen, president of the Canadian Christmas Tree Growers Association.

At one time, the pine tree was the No. 1 holiday tree, but this wide, heavy, long-needled tree has been replaced in popularity by the fir, a lighter, thinner, short-needled tree grown in many varieties across the country.

Native to Canada's East Coast, the Balsam fir is a nice-looking, hardy tree that sells for a relatively good price.

"It keeps moderately well, has rigid stems that don't sag when you hang decorations, and it has a thin trunk, which makes it easier to handle and put into a stand," Loewen said.

Gaining in popularity is the Fraser fir, also found primarily in Eastern Canada, but also in the west. It's pricier for a few reasons.

"It's the best needle keeper when you bring it in-



Real Christmas trees can help enhance the holiday experience. PRESSMASTER/SHUTTERSTOCK

side," Loewen said. "It's lightweight, narrow, has the most rigid branches, and tends to last longer than the Balsam.

But the big reason for the extra cost is that there is more work in raising a Fraser fir to harvest. They take longer to grow than other firs, they grow best in dry areas and are more prone to disease and insects.

In the West, the Douglas fir tops the list.

"It matures quickly, so it's

not as expensive to grow," Loewen said.

However, it doesn't last as long and the branches do sag a bit more than the more expensive Noble fir, also native to the West.

"The Noble fir is much like the Fraser, except it has a bluish colour," Loewen said.

Priced like the Fraser, this "king of the Christmas trees" grows slowly but does well as a holiday tree.

Christmas Tree Day

The Canadian Christmas Tree Growers Association has declared Dec. 7 as National Christmas Tree Day. The following are some facts and figures from the Canadian Christmas Tree Growers Association:

- The total value of the Christmas tree exportations (wholesale value) in 2011 was \$1.7 million.

tions (wholesale value) in 2011 was \$1.7 million.

- Canada harvests approximately 2.5 million trees annually
- More than 34,600 hectares (76,700 acres) were used for growing Christmas trees in Canada in 2011.

- There were 2,381 Christmas tree plantations in Canada in 2001.

- Each hectare produces enough oxygen for 40 people.

- For more about National Christmas Tree Day, visit canadianchristmastrees.ca.



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Biotherm Homme Special-Edition Skincare gift set (\$52 via biotherm.ca) and **Rob Stewart's Revolution** (\$15 via Target, Futureshop and therevolutionmovie.com) are sold separately, but together make a great underwater adventure theme gift. Both contribute to charities that protect global ocean resources.

Braun CoolTec Shaver is the first dry electric razor that cools skin during use to reduce shaving irritation. From \$149.99 at London Drugs and Best Buy. See braun.com for more retailers.

Clarisonic Aria is the latest version of the lauded skin care cleansing system. It's more streamlined, travel-friendly, has three speeds and comes in black. \$225 at Shoppers Drug Mart beauty boutiques and Sephora.

Kiehl's Facial Fuel Energizing Moisturizer wakes skin up with antioxidants vitamins C and E as well as soy. Heavy Lifting Firming Moisturizer helps get rid of flaky patches, minimizes fine lines and improves elasticity and firmness. \$30 and \$40 at Kiehls stores and kiehls.ca.

Lush Dirty Gift Set is a zippy fresh, wake-him-up trio of Dirty Springwash shower gel, Dirty Body Spray

and refreshing Dirty Toothy Tabs. \$44.95 at Lush stores and lush.ca.

Micropedi Man Rapid Hard Skin Remover swiftly and painlessly buffs away rough, dry skin to leave feet smooth and comfortable. \$49.99 at Shoppers Drug Mart.

Shiseido Man Active Energizing Concentrate is a quick-absorb fluid that controls oil and shine, and firms and brightens skin, too. \$70 at Hudson's Bay and thebay.com.

Sonicare Black Diamond-Clean Electric Toothbrush delivers 31,000 brush strokes in two minutes, whiter teeth in seven days, and improved gum health in two weeks. Comes with USB rechargeable case. \$229.99 at Shoppers Drug Mart, Target and London Drugs.

Tay Essential Oils Bar Soap are long-lasting, triple-milled, skin-softening natural soaps scented with zesty bitter orange and orange twig. \$16 each at select boutiques; tayskin.com.



Aveda Invati, clockwise, from left, Lush Dirty Gift Set, Tay Essential Oils Bar Soap, Clarisonic Aria, Shiseido Man Active Energizing Concentrate, Braun CoolTec Shaver, Kiehl's Facial Fuel Energizing Moisturizer, and Micropedi Man Rapid Hard Skin Remover.



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SkyHawks take flight at CTC

The Ottawa SkyHawks' Fred Sturdivant rises up to dunk during the first quarter of Thursday night's NBL Canada game against the Brampton A's at the Canadian Tire Centre on Thursday. Go to metronews.ca for results from the game. MIKE CARROCCETTO/METRO

RedBlacks peg Campbell as head coach, source says

CFL. After finding success in Calgary, defensive co-ordinator expected to be named as main man in Ottawa

The Ottawa RedBlacks have found their man.

According to a CFL source requesting anonymity, the RedBlacks have chosen Calgary Stampeders defensive co-ordinator Rick Campbell as their first head coach. They're expected to make it official Friday morning at a news conference.

Ottawa is scheduled to return to the CFL in 2014.

Campbell is a 15-year CFL coaching veteran but the Ottawa appointment would be his first as a head coach. Campbell is the third CFL head coach to be hired this off-season behind Edmonton's Chris Jones and Winnipeg's Mike O'Shea.

All three are first-time CFL head coaches.

Campbell is the son of



The Calgary Stampeders led the CFL in sacks under defensive co-ordinator Rick Campbell. COURTESY CFL

legendary Edmonton Eskimos head coach and executive Hugh Campbell and has spent the last two years as Calgary's defensive co-ordinator.

This past season, Calgary recorded a CFL-best 63 sacks en route to posting a league-best 14-4 record. But the Stampeders lost 35-13 to Saskatchewan in the West Division final.

Campbell had been mentioned as a leading candidate

Offensive chops

Rick Campbell joined the Stampeders' staff in 2010 as their running backs coach.

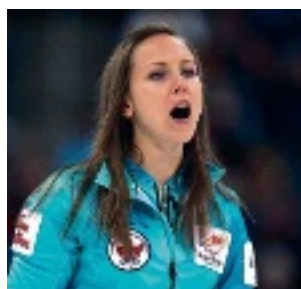
- That year Calgary boasted the CFL's top ground attack with 2,618 rushing yards.

for Edmonton's head-coaching job, which went to Jones. Campbell succeeded Jones as Calgary's defensive co-ordinator in 2012 when Jones left to join the Toronto Argonauts.

This past season, Calgary boasted two of the CFL's top pass rushers in Charleston Hughes (league-high 18 sacks) and Cordarro Law (third with 14). Hughes was both a West Division and CFL all-star in 2013.

Hughes and Law also anchored a defence that forced a league-high 11 turnovers on downs and was second in fewest points allowed (22.9 per game). **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Homan through to semis at Olympic trials



Rachel Homan calls out directions to her rink on Thursday. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Rachel Homan didn't care how she got a spot into the Canadian Olympic curling trials semifinal, it just mattered that her rink got one.

The defending Canadian champion from Ottawa defeated Stefanie Lawton of Saskatoon 6-5 in the final game of the seven-game round robin to finish 4-3, the same record as Winnipeg's Chelsea Carey and Ontario's Sherry Middaugh.

Homan got bumped to the

Awaiting her opponent

"We've played them both a million times, and it's going to be a good game either way, and hopefully we can win it in 10 (ends)."

Ottawa's Rachel Homan on whether she would prefer to play Chelsea Carey or Sherry Middaugh in the semifinal of the Canadian Olympic curling trials

semi, though, because her Ottawa rink fared better than Carey and Middaugh's teams on rankings based on draws

to the button before games throughout the week.

"It wasn't important," Homan said of avoiding a tie-

breaker at Winnipeg's MTS Centre. "It's nice to be able to get second place and go into the semi. Either way we had a chance and that's all we needed."

Carey and Middaugh will play their tie-breaker Friday with the winner taking on Homan in the evening. Winnipeg veteran skip Jennifer Jones already earned a bye into Saturday night's final

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NFL

Cutler, Briggs out again for Bears

Chicago Bears quarterback Jay Cutler and linebacker Lance Briggs will miss Monday night's home game against Dallas. Coach Marc Trestman said Cutler remains out with a high ankle sprain, while Briggs is out with a shoulder fracture.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Source says Wilson to stay in L.A.

Brian Wilson will be wearing Dodger Blue for at least another season. The free-agent reliever agreed to terms on a \$10 million, one-year contract to stay with the Dodgers, a person with direct knowledge of the negotiations said Thursday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Relief pitcher Brian Wilson. GETTY IMAGES

CFL

Higgins stepping down as director of officiating

The CFL is in need of a new director of officiating.

The league announced Thursday that Tom Higgins is leaving that post effective immediately.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA



"You could be a fool if you want to. Dead serious. I know I'm going to be all right."

Derrick Rose when asked Thursday if it is time for the Bulls to abandon building around him. The star point guard didn't rule out a comeback in the playoffs if his surgically repaired right knee is healed.

Bar set high for Canuck ski crossers



Canadians Chris Del Bosco, bottom, and Brady Leman, top, compete in the men's Sprint U.S. Grand Prix ski cross finals in February 2012 in Park City, Utah. Del Bosco and Leman will anchor an experienced Canadian team at the Sochi Games. DOUG PENSINGER/GETTY IMAGES

Focus on Sochi. Canadians have pedigree to own podium in sport's second Olympics

The Canadian ski cross team's goal is to win two Olympic medals at the Sochi Games in February.

Considering the depth of the squad, that might be a rather conservative number.

The national team is loaded with experienced veterans and rising stars. Anchored by Chris Del Bosco, Brady Leman, Kelsey Serwa and Marielle Thompson, the Canadians enter the season-opening Audi FIS Ski Cross World Cup armed with confidence and podium familiarity.

"This weekend I believe we're fully capable of multiple medals," said assistant coach Willy Raine. "Every World Cup event we go to, we should have somebody on the podium."

Raine has reason to be

Strong start

Ashleigh McIvor, who retired last year, helped put ski cross on the map by winning gold when the sport made its Olympic debut at the 2010 Vancouver Games.

optimistic, considering the stacked resumes of the team members.

Thompson, from Whistler, B.C., won a Crystal Globe last year as overall World Cup champion and took the silver at the 2013 world championship. Serwa, the 2011 world champion from Kelowna, B.C., underwent left knee surgery earlier this year but has recovered and feels ready heading into the season.

Del Bosco, a Montreal resident, won a world title in 2011 and has 18 World Cup career podiums. Leman was ranked No. 2 in the world last year and is also a podium hopeful with veteran Dave Duncan of London, Ont.

"The bar is set high for us,"

Raine said. "We expect it and we're willing to work hard to (get) the results."

Canada has won the Nations' Cup as the No. 1 team on the World Cup circuit in four of the last five years. The squad is looking to build on that momentum when competition begins Friday at the Nakiska Ski Area outside of Calgary.

"We push each other," Del Bosco said. "We're always trying to one-up each other. It's a really good environment. It's going to be a really good year this year."

Over 120 athletes will be on the slopes this week as they compete for over \$80,000 in prize money and the chance to qualify for nomination to their respective Olympic teams. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Race duration

90

The Nakiska course takes about 90 seconds for racers to go from top to bottom, a time that will likely be the longest on the World Cup circuit this season.

Comeback

Vonn makes her return on Friday

With her eyes wide and a big smile, Lindsey Vonn declared on Thursday that she is ready to race for the first time in 10 months.

Vonn said she will return to competition in a World Cup downhill on Friday in Lake Louise, Alta.

She has not raced since a crash at the world championships in February, when she tore two ligaments in her right knee and broke a bone in her lower leg. About 2 1/2 weeks ago, Vonn partially re-tore one of those reconstructed ligaments in a crash while training. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Well-prepared

Guay posts best time in training

Erik Guay turned in the fastest time in World Cup downhill training on Thursday in frigid conditions.

Guay, from Mont-Tremblant, Que., found the quickest line through the modified Beaver Creek, Colo., course, finishing in one minute 43.48 seconds.

The race is Friday. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Jamie Benn. Stars captain hoping to play wing man for likes of Crosby, Toews

Jamie Benn can't always get what he wants.

Over the summer Benn wanted to be invited to Team Canada's Olympic orientation camp and named captain of the Dallas Stars. Hockey Canada didn't put him on the list but Benn did become the NHL's third-youngest captain.

Funny thing is, those parallel events have combined to make Benn something of a force this season and a legitimate candidate to represent Canada in Sochi. That spark started with being snubbed from camp.

"He really is playing like a possessed player," Stars coach and Team Canada assistant Lindy Ruff said. "He's done some great things for our team."

"He's led our team in a lot of categories. There's been nights where we needed big plays and big goals, there's been nights where we needed physical play and he's really supplied almost everything."

Benn has seven goals and 18 assists in his first 26 games, second only to Chris Kunitz of the Pittsburgh Penguins among Canadian-born left-wingers. The 24-year-old was a centre earlier in his career with the



Jamie Benn GETTY IMAGES FILE

Stars, but the off-season acquisition of Tyler Seguin from the Boston Bruins allowed Benn to move back to his more natural position.

"I'm comfortable in both spots, but it's pretty nice going back to left wing," Benn said. "It's where I played almost my whole life."

"Obviously to have Tyler in the middle at his regular position, we're feeding off each other pretty well."

That move could also help Benn make Team Canada, which is stacked at centre with Sidney Crosby, Jonathan Toews, John Tavares, Eric Staal and many others. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Boston	27	18	7	2	75	55	38
Montreal	29	17	9	3	80	62	37
Detroit	29	14	8	7	81	79	35
Tampa Bay	27	16	10	1	76	67	33
Toronto	28	14	11	3	77	77	31
Ottawa	28	11	13	4	82	92	26
Florida	28	7	16	5	61	95	19
Buffalo	28	6	20	2	48	85	14

METROPOLITAN DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Pittsburgh	29	19	9	1	89	66	39
Washington	28	14	12	2	83	82	30
NY Rangers	28	14	14	0	62	71	28
Philadelphia	28	13	13	2	63	68	28
New Jersey	29	11	12	6	64	71	27
Carolina	28	11	12	5	61	79	27
Columbus	28	11	14	3	68	80	25
NY Islanders	28	8	15	5	74	96	21

Thursday's results

Dallas at Toronto
San Jose at Pittsburgh
NY Rangers at Buffalo
Winnipeg at Florida

Boston at Montreal
Ottawa at Tampa Bay
Carolina at Nashville
NY Islanders at St. Louis

Chicago at Minnesota
Colorado at Edmonton

Wednesday's results

Calgary 4 Phoenix 1
Montreal 4 New Jersey 3 (SO)
Philadelphia 6 Detroit 3

Friday's games — All times Eastern

San Jose at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Detroit at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Anaheim at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Colorado at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Phoenix at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Saturday's games
Philadelphia at Dallas, 2 p.m.
Winnipeg at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.
Nashville at Washington, 7 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Boston, 7 p.m.
Florida at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Buffalo at Montreal, 7 p.m.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Chicago	29	20	5	4	105	80	44
St. Louis	26	18	5	3	91	60	39
Colorado	25	19	6	0	76	52	38
Minnesota	29	16	8	5	70	67	37
Dallas	26	13	9	4	74	76	30
Winnipeg	29	13	12	4	78	82	30
Nashville	28	13	12	3	63	78	29

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
San Jose	27	19	3	5	96	62	43
Anaheim	30	18	7	5	93	80	41
Los Angeles	29	18	7	4	76	62	40
Phoenix	28	16	8	4	92	90	36
Vancouver	30	15	10	5	80	78	35
Calgary	27	10	13	4	74	94	24
Edmonton	29	9	18	2	75	101	20

Note: 2 points for a win, 1 point for overtime loss.

Toronto at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at NY Rangers, 7:30 p.m.
Anaheim at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Calgary at Edmonton, 10 p.m.
NY Islanders at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	Pt
Crosby, Pgh	15	23	38
Malkin, Pgh	7	30	37
Kane, Chi	16	16	32
Getzlaf, Ana	14	18	32
Tavares, NYI	11	21	32
Steen, StL	20	11	31
Perry, Ana	16	15	31
Ovechkin, Wash	21	9	30
Zetterberg, Det	11	19	30
Thornton, SJ	5	25	30
Kunitz, Pgh	14	14	28
Couture, SJ	10	18	28
H. Sedin, Van	7	21	28
Karlsson, Ott	7	20	27

Thursday's games not included

MLS PLAYOFFS

MLS CUP

Saturday's game

Kansas City vs. Salt Lake, 4 p.m., EST

NFL

Thursday's result

Houston at Jacksonville

Sunday's games — All times Eastern

Kansas City at Washington, 1 p.m.
Minnesota at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
Buffalo at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
Oakland at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.
Miami at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at New England, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at Green Bay, 1 p.m.
Detroit at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
Tennessee at Denver, 4:05 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at San Diego, 4:25 p.m.
Seattle at San Francisco, 4:25 p.m.
St. Louis at Arizona, 4:25 p.m.
Carolina at New Orleans, 8:30 p.m.

Monday's game

Dallas at Chicago, 8:40 p.m.

NBA

Thursday's results

New York at Brooklyn
L.A. Clippers at Memphis
Miami at Chicago
Wednesday's results
Atlanta 107 L.A. Clippers 97
Phoenix 97 Houston 88
Dallas 100 New Orleans 97
Indiana 95 Utah 86
Portland 111 Oklahoma City 104
Cleveland 98 Denver 88

Detroit 105 Milwaukee 98
San Antonio vs. Minnesota, ppd.

Friday's games — All times Eastern

Philadelphia at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Washington, 7 p.m.
Denver at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Golden State at Houston, 8 p.m.
Oklahoma City at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Toronto at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Utah at Portland, 10 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

Saturday's games

Denver at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Miami at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Golden State at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Detroit at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Indiana at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Brooklyn at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Utah, 9 p.m.
Dallas at Portland, 10 p.m.

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

You may be a nice guy but most likely you will refuse to come to the rescue of someone who is in distress today. It may seem heartless but it's the only way they are going to learn.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Too often you have held back while those with considerably less talent have achieved the kind of success that should have been yours. Shed your inhibitions and let the world see what a star you are.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

You may be under pressure to apologize for something you said to a friend or colleague but is that wise? Not if you truly meant it. Besides, why give them the impression that you can be easily swayed?

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

You may be behind in your schedule but don't worry about it. If anything, you should be aiming to conserve your energy now — if only because by the early part of next week you will be working harder than ever.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

There are only so many hours in a day, so identify your priorities and don't try to do everything at once. Aim for quality rather than quantity in all things at all times. One way or another, it will be enough.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

You have reason to be annoyed with someone but because you are an agreeable individual, you may allow them to wriggle out of it by saying the right words. That'd be a mistake.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

It's not like you to look back and wish things had been different but that may be your attitude today. OK, so you could have done a lot of things differently and some things better but that's life.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Everything is going according to plan and even though you may not get all the things you desire today, you will certainly get all the things you need. The cosmos, as always, are looking over and looking after you.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

You may not be the best in certain areas but in one field of endeavor you have no equals and that is what you should be focusing on now. Don't try to be all things to all men.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Close your ears to criticism and don't waste time trying to get even with those who have let you down or said hurtful things. Time is too precious to waste on petty people.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

There is no point complaining about a certain person's behaviour when what they are doing now is what they did yesterday and the day before that. It's in their nature, so either accept it or move away from their influence.

Pisces

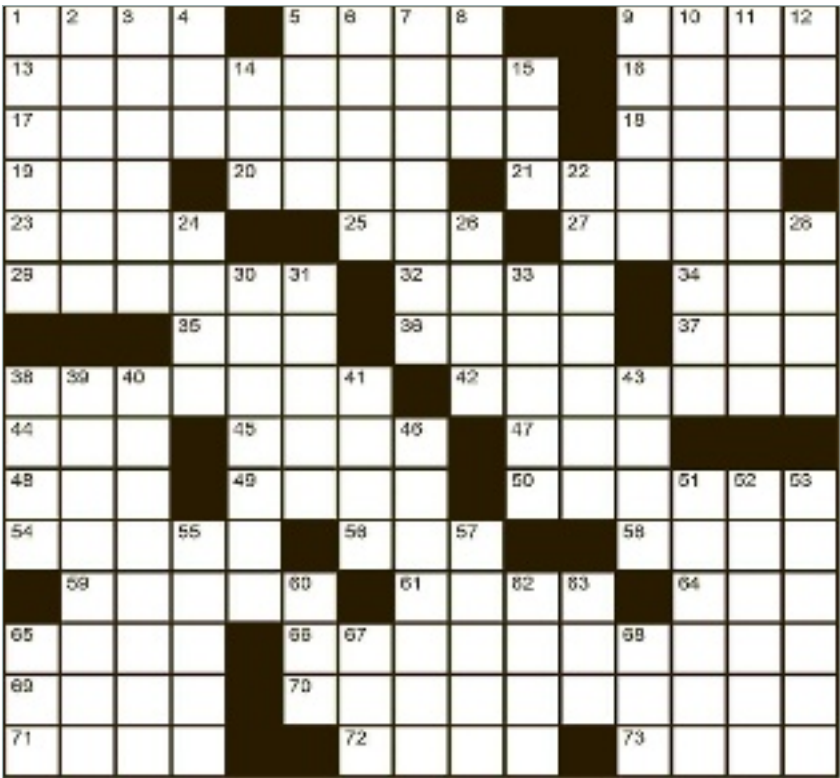
Feb. 20 - March 20

You need more fun in your life but you won't get it doing the same old things with the same old people. The planets are urging you to be more adventurous. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

Across

1. Abodes-in-build-ings, e.g.
5. Labels
9. Biblical boats
13. E! Canada host who previously hosted "So You Think You Can Dance Can-ada": 2 wds.
16. Bulk containers
17. London, ON's nickname: 2 wds.
18. Meat cut
19. Univ. paper
20. Incite
21. Be an active volcano
23. Old music high notes
25. Pick-up-sticks game
27. "___ There Yet?" (2005): 2 wds.
29. Teeth-related
32. Head's holder
34. Headed
35. "Bravo!"
36. Ex-VP Al
37. Papua New Guinea seaport
38. "The Daily Show" host Jon
42. London, ON university
44. Legume
45. Lady Gaga song
47. Lady's man
48. Computer key
49. Actress Ms. Can-non
50. Does canine work
54. ___ beaucoup!
56. Veggie of Japan



58. Venus de ___ (Ancient statue)
59. Lost & ___
61. Waning waves
64. "Platoon" (1986) war, for short
65. Designer, Christian ___ (b.1905 - d.1957)
66. PM Harper's hockey book: 3 wds.

69. Prefix meaning 'High'
70. Canadian actress who starred in 1933's "42nd Street": 2 wds.
71. "___, ___ have you decided yet?" (Er, like, did you make up your mind?)
72. Wall St. landmark, commonly

73. Fewer
Down
1. Bruce Wayne's butler
2. Celebrity magazine
3. Scottish pattern
4. "___-Devil" (1989)
5. Musician Mr. Puente
6. Rio Tinto ___ (Alum-inum company based

- in Montreal)
7. Soaring
8. Band's perform-ance
9. "It's all ___." (Foggy memory com-ment)
10. Canadian painter, Jean Paul ___ (b.1923 - d.2002)
11. Sweaters and

- scarves
12. US tax ID
14. Food additive
15. Deli bread
22. Makes much money: 2 wds.
24. Pack
26. Cat call
28. Apple/snake lieu
30. 1992 Disney animated flick
31. "Madame Curie" (1943) director, Mervyn ___
33. Salad green
38. Internet junk
39. Cinematic federal agency, ___ Canada
40. Have carrots or potatoes, basically: 2 wds.
41. "Heart and Soul" '80s group
43. Hair salon task
46. BC city in the northern Okanagan
51. Conclusion
52. Scotiabank Saddledome team
53. Actress/entrepre-neur Suzanne
55. Oddity
57. Does as instructed
60. ___ es Salaam, Tanzania
62. Create cupcakes
63. Fr. holy woman
65. Brother's sis, to Mom [abbr.]
67. Son-of-a-___
68. Collective Soul song

Yesterday's Crossword

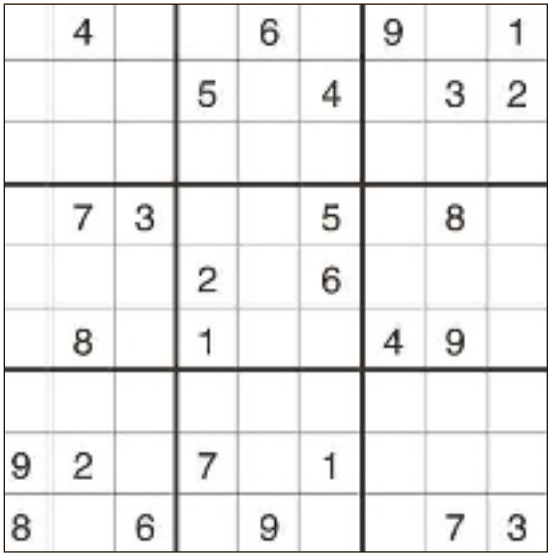


Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku



Today



0°/-9°
Partly sunny

Saturday



-2°/-14°
Partly cloudy

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